

THE
NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.

A GREAT deal of sectarian heat has been excited by the introduction of this bill to parliament. Grave charges have been bandied from side to side, which, whatever else they have done, have tended but little to illustrate the merits or demerits of the measure itself. The warfare, which, like border warfare in general, has been carried on with acrimony, all the more bitter for the neighbourhood of the parties engaged in it, has contributed little to advance the interests of truth. Hitherto, therefore, we have declined taking any active part in it; and have rather indicated the direction in which our opinion runs, than set forth the grounds upon which it rests. Some of our readers, we perceive, are dissatisfied with this our comparative silence, and call for an explicit avowal of our sentiments. They are perfectly welcome to what they claim. Our past history will protect us from the suspicion of trimming. We are not wont to shrink from discussion, merely to save ourselves from inconvenient consequences. Our vocation happens to have taken us a different route, and we have been indisposed to step aside from it for objects which we cannot help regarding as of very minor importance. But we should be sorry to leave our friends in a state of uncertainty as to our judgment in this matter; and therefore propose, in place of the few remarks which might have occurred in connexion with the series of articles upon which we are engaged, to put on record, as briefly and intelligibly as we are able, our settled convictions on the subject now under review.

If our readers will be pleased to bear us company through the region of two or three general principles, we hope to conduct them to an elevation whence they may with the more ease descry the whole length and breadth of this particular measure, its prominent features, its special defects, and its various bearings. Possibly, also, they may discover a larger range of truth than this question comprises, and may gain other knowledge than is necessary to determine their judgment on this point.

The first observation we have to make, touches the right of individuals to withdraw from the control of posterity any portion of the property which must descend to it, for the purpose of maintaining any opinions whatever. In a moral point of view, we are convinced that no such right exists. The consequences which the admission of the right involves are such as never could come out of the working of a true principle. For first, if individuals are warranted, by the laws of social morality, in tying up the property they leave to the support of certain opinions; and if equity demands that what they have willed in this matter shall be binding on all coming generations, then it is perfectly conceivable that, in process of time, the whole fixed property of society may be made over to give permanence to a pernicious falsehood. The statute of mortmain shows this to be no imaginary danger. Now let us suppose that statute never to have seen the light. Let us suppose, no very extreme case either, the whole landed property of Great Britain to have passed into the hands of the Romish priesthood. Let us suppose it religiously devoted

to carry out the known intentions of the testators. We should then have had the whole wealth of society in the present day alienated for ever from its use, and employed in propping up a system which a large majority of our countrymen agree in regarding as a destructive error. Would it, in such case, have been right to resume the property thus bequeathed? If not, then the mistakes, or the caprices—the ignorance, or the superstition of one generation, may inflict upon all subsequent generations to the end of time, a cleaving curse—a result which no sound principle of social morality can sustain. But if otherwise—if the property thus alienated might be properly resumed for more enlightened use by the present generation, wherein was the right of the original testators defective? Was it vitiated by the character of the opinions they held? Who is to be the judge of those opinions? The state? This would be committing to the civil magistrate the guardianship of orthodoxy. And yet, clearly, no other judge could be selected. But let us imagine another case. Let us imagine the experience of the next two or three generations, to establish beyond dispute the conclusion that all endowments for the maintenance of opinions, whether correct or incorrect, were nuisances—that they enervated the moral energy of society—that they bred indifference—that they harboured hypocrisy and insincerity—and that they constituted a main impediment in the way of that very truth they were bequeathed to advance. Would posterity be justified in sweeping them away? Can it be within the range of individual rights, to smite truth with a leprosy which can never depart from her? And if not, why not? Plainly because posterity has a right of control over the property which descends to it; or, in other words, because the right of individuals to appropriate it to the furtherance of what they may deem the interests of the social body cannot forestall the judgment of the body itself.

There is another view of the question deserving of consideration. The possession of property brings with it a moral responsibility. Each man is bound to the Author of his being, so to employ it during life-time, as to advance what, after conscientious inquiry, appeared to him to be the interests of truth. By reserving it for a bequest, he commits a twofold wrong. He robs himself of the pleasure of doing good, and he robs posterity of the power. Were the whole property of a country, as we have before supposed, alienated for the furtherance of certain opinions, future generations would be without responsibility altogether—for responsibility cannot exist where there is no power. We should then have, through successive ages, an immense mass of property daily applied to specific uses, for the application of which no living man could be held accountable. Such a state of things would be an utter absurdity; but it is towards such a state of things that every endowment is driving.

The train of reasoning here adopted, applicable to bequests in favour of opinion, abstractedly considered, touches still more closely those which are made in support of any modification of Christian doctrine or discipline. Christianity is designed to be promoted by the living energy of living disciples. All effort for the diffusion of it must, in order to be consistent with the genius of the system, be merely the external form in which faith, hope, and love, develop themselves. It is the privilege, as it is also to constitute the discipline, of every member of Christ's church, to put forth the strength of his new character in coping with the spiritual ignorance and pravity of the age in which he lives. No man has a right to forestall him the privilege, or to deprive him of the discipline. He who leaves a sum of money for the advancement of religion, in whatever shape, and calls in the state to see to its strict appropriation—sets up, *pro tanto*, a religious establishment—takes from his legitimate heirs the opportunity, to the same extent, of using wealth for God—sets aside for ever, in relation to that property, the obligation of inquiring in what way it may be most advantageously extended—and, in as far as in him lies, blots out from the creed of the church the maxim, "The Bible, and the Bible alone, is the religion of protestants." He stereotypes his religious belief for all future ages. He is a pope within the limited sphere of his own bequest. He decides, not for himself alone, but for others. He leaves no room for improvement—none for further

thought. He constitutes himself, to the extent of his means, an authority from which there is to be no appeal. Here is a certain amount of means which, in the order of providence, would be at the disposal of other generations. This amount he withdraws from their general fund, and consecrates it to the exclusive maintenance, for ever, of what he happens to regard as truth. We have no hesitation in saying that the whole tenour of Christianity repudiates the deed.

We come now to the application of these principles to the case in hand. The Dissenters' Chapels bill, in all cases in which the will of the testator has made no specification of the doctrines he wished to promote, makes a possession of 25 years a sufficient title to the endowment. If we object to this, as a final arrangement, and we do object to it, it is not on account of any injustice done to the dead, but to the living. It is not because the donors may, in most instances, be supposed to have held opinions at variance with those of the parties now enjoying the usufruct of their bequests, but because the supposed right of the donor is recognised at all, that we are dissatisfied with the measure. Nevertheless, we hold it to be, so far as it goes, a step in the right direction. It breaks in upon the sanctity of "a custom more honour'd in the breach than the observance." It is in the spirit of the mortmain act. It will discourage bequests for religious uses. It is an act of justice, moreover, if these things must yet be, to men who, although they hold opinions which we might reject, have buried their dead in, and interwoven their associations with, and expended their property upon, places of worship which they held to be theirs by no doubtful claim. We should be sorry to see them despoiled, merely because their views of Christianity differ from those held by some individuals a hundred and fifty years ago. Religion, we are sure, would gain nothing thereby. As a mere matter of justice, surely, as much deference is due to the living as the dead. The unitarians could not be ousted without inflicting upon them, as individuals, a grievous amount of wrong. The endowments could not be transferred to others who, as individuals, have the smallest claim to them. And as to the cause of truth, from which, it is said, these endowments have been subtracted, we are quite content that truth should be denuded of them all. They are a dead weight upon any system of opinions.

If it be urged that the preceding observations, even if valid against any active process to dispossess unitarians of their endowments, do not justify the enactment of the "Dissenters' Chapels bill," we reply, Possibly not; for we are not about to give bail for that body; but it deserves to be remembered, that appearances were very minatory before they resorted to a legislative remedy. We think that the parties who have had the conduct of the bill have not acted with all the openness and straightforwardness which would command respect. But whether the body is chargeable with trickery, we are unable to determine: our opinion is, that they are not. At all events, the character of the measure is not affected by the conduct of those who may happen to have the management of it. Of the measure itself we approve, as being a slight, a very slight, approximation to right principles; and as calculated, whilst the present system continues, to protect individuals from threatened injustice. We have nothing more to add. We have given our opinion, and the reasons for it. They who find fault with us for the first, will greatly oblige us by showing the unsoundness of the last.

THE NORTHERN FREE BIBLE SOCIETY.

(From the Gateshead Observer.)

THIS institution was duly constituted on Wednesday evening, at a public meeting in Nelson Street chapel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (R. B. Sanderson, Esq., of West Jesmond, in the chair), when the provisional committee was superseded by a permanent staff. In opening the business of the meeting, Mr SANDERSON, among other statements, announced that the Free Bible Society would circulate the scriptures without note or comment.

Mr R. B. SANDERSON, jun., read the rules of the Society, which have already appeared in our columns.

Mr CHILDS, of Bungay, stated, in a brief address, that the British and Foreign Bible Society, at its last meeting, had voted £5,000 for the gratuitous distribution of the Bible—a vote which, he was in-

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lined to think, might be traced to the establishment of the Anti-Monopoly Bible Society of Newcastle [applause].

The Rev. Dr THOMSON, of Coldstream, made a short speech, and was received as an old favourite.

Mr EDWARD MIALI, the editor of the *Nonconformist*, was next introduced to the meeting by the Chairman, as the "Father of Modern Nonconformity," and welcomed with loud and prolonged acclamations. We regret that, owing to those "necessities of journalism" with which he must himself be too familiar, we cannot report his powerful speech. In the course of it, he referred to that important question which the Northern Bible Society has been established to bring to an issue—namely, whether other Bibles than those of the patentee can be sold in England. In the days of the Tudors and Stuarts, said Mr Miall, monopolies abounded: they were "as plentiful as blackberries." The sovereign assumed to be the fountain of honour, and of right, and of privilege. One by one, however, the monopolies under which the nation groaned were got rid of; until—as a retiring disease will sometimes settle in some particular part of the body—one stubborn monopoly alone remained—the monopoly of the Bible. There was some plausibility in the retention of this remnant of the privileges of the Crown. The sovereign was the "head of the church," and might, with some show of reason, claim the power of supplying the state church with the scriptures. But in the present day, when nonconformity was a fact recognised and sanctioned by the legislature, the Crown could have no claim to monopolise the supply of Bibles to persons who never entered the churches of the state. He verily believed that the sovereign had no constitutional right to grant a monopoly of the Bible to any man or set of men. At all events, the question was worth trying; and he rejoiced that there was manhood enough in the nonconformists of Newcastle to put it to the test [applause]. If the Crown could restrict the printing of the Bible to one man, it could just as rightfully decree that the Book should be printed by no man [hear, hear]; and surely this was a power which no Englishman would concede to the sovereign. Mr Miall proceeded to argue, that, if the Crown could legally grant a monopoly of the Bible, Christians were bound to resist it by a higher law—the law of God. But we can follow him no further.

The Rev. Mr ROBERTSON moved the appointment of the officers and committee. The Rev. Mr THOMSON (son of the Dr) seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

RALPH WALTERS, Esq., moved a vote of thanks to the strangers from a distance, for their attendance at the meeting, and made a few observations appropriate to the business of the evening. Mr J. F. GRANT seconded the motion, and it was passed by acclamation.

Mr MIALI, after a short conference with Dr Thomson and Mr Childs, rose amidst loud applause, and came forward to the front of the hustings. It was too bad, he said, to keep so kind an audience waiting, while the performers were quarrelling "behind the scenes" [laughter]. So, rather than be guilty of such ingratitude, he had allowed himself to be pushed on the stage, although it would have been more fitting for Mr Childs or Dr Thomson to have acknowledged the vote of thanks, seeing that he was a much younger labourer in the cause of free bibles. After a remark or two on the importance of the Newcastle movement, and the influence which it would exert in other parts of the kingdom, Mr Miall—although encouraged to go on—refused to commit the error of making a second speech, and concluded with an anecdote:—A young gentleman (he related) was making a speech on a public platform, and spoke with considerable power, but also, unfortunately, with no inconsiderable prosiness, for the space of three quarters of an hour. At length, his father (who was in the chair), seeing that he had not the discretion to know when to leave off, pulled him by the coat-tail, and whispered, "John! say something good, and sit down." (Roars of laughter, amidst which Mr Miall "sat down.")

Thanks were given to the chairman by acclamation, and the meeting separated.

THE BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—We notice, as a sign of the times, the formation in England of a society, the object of which is, by all fair means, such as public discussion, and similar means, the doing away with all ecclesiastical establishments. This new form of public feeling has been called forth by the increasingly offensive conduct of the Puseyite clergy. A large number of the most wealthy and intelligent dissenters have joined the society. The oppressive and popish conduct of the Puseyite clergy, the efforts of the Corn-law League, and this new institution, will, we apprehend, in the course of a few years, work a material change in the whole face of things in Britain.—*Calcutta Christian Advocate*.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—The following resolution was passed at the Western Association of Baptist Churches, at Crewkerne, May 29th, 1844:—"That this association, believing that the union of sacred and secular things, in state establishments of Christianity, is opposed to the principles of the New Testament, subversive of the rights of Christians, and injurious to the interests of Christ's kingdom, rejoices in the peaceful proceedings and successful termination of the Anti-state-church Convention recently held in London, and expresses its hope that the churches of this association will co-operate in the Christian efforts arising out of it, to enlighten the public mind, and to prepare the way for the ultimate and entire separation of church and state."

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.—A meeting of those members of Craven chapel who had appointed representatives to the Anti-state-Church Conference was held on Wednesday evening last, when a report of the proceedings of the Conference was furnished, and a provisional committee formed, with a view to promote the objects of the Anti-state-church Association at the west end of the metropolis.

We are informed that Mr Sturge has sent a note to the Secretaries of the British Anti-state-church Association, in which, while he expresses his cordial concurrence with its objects, he declines accepting the appointment on the Executive Committee, from want of time to attend to its duties, and other reasons.

SEIZURE FOR CHURCH RATES.—Considerable excitement has been occasioned in Hemel Hempstead during the past week, by an extensive seizure for church rates, made upon the property of a large number of the dissenting inhabitants. Mr James Price, a dissenting minister, has had goods to the amount of three pounds taken away; and the injustice of the compulsory payment in his case is more marked than in any other, as he has officiated as a preacher of the gospel for fourteen years gratuitously.

CHURCH RATE SEIZURE.—On Saturday last Mr W. Tarrant, of the Red Cow inn, having obtained a warrant, proceeded to seize and carry off from the house of Mr Thomas Knott, a member of the Society of Friends, residing on David's hill (for a demand of £2 3s. 4d.), furniture and effects of more than the value of twelve pounds, consisting, as appears by the auction bill, of nine mahogany hair-seated parlour chairs, a tea urn, two kitchen tables, and one round ditto, one folding mahogany tray stand, a copper kettle, preserving pan, copper coal scuttle, two sets of fire irons, and one fender, which were deposited at the Plume of Feathers inn, for sale on the Thursday following.—*Exeter Times*.

BANBURY.—CHURCH RATES.—The annual robbery, in the name of "the church," has just been perpetrated here, several members of the Society of Friends having had their goods seized by the agents of the law establishments.

CHURCH RATES.—On Thursday last a vestry meeting was held at St Mary's church, Cheltenham, in pursuance of a notice to make a rate for the purpose of paying for cleaning and repairing the parish church; and to pay the necessary expenses attending Divine service therein. Owing to the services at Salem chapel, there were but few nonconformists present, and a larger attendance of church rate supporters than usual. After a considerable discussion a poll took place, but we have not heard the result. The *Free Press* says:—"At the very time that thousands of the dissenters were assembled in a place of worship just erected by them at a very considerable expense, the episcopalians met in their place of worship, to pass a resolution which would empower them to levy contributions on all the ratepayers (with the exception of those who live on glebe land, &c.), to pay the salaries of their organist, beadle, and other officers, the expense of repairing and adorning two of their temples, of putting up new gates in the churchyard, and of washing the minister's surplices, &c."

REGIUM DONUM.—At the meeting of the Northamptonshire Baptist Association, on the 28th of May, it was resolved *nem. con.*, that a petition be sent to the House of Commons against the British *regium donum*; that letters be sent to Mr Pritchard and Dr Murch, the baptist distributors of that grant, respectfully requesting them to decline its distribution, and that letters also be sent to the M.P.s. of Northamptonshire, asking them to vote against the grant. The association comprises thirty-three churches and nearly 3,000 communicants.

INTOLERANT CONDUCT OF THE CURATE OF SILKSTONE.—A correspondent, resident at Silkstone, has this week furnished us with two instances of most reprehensible conduct pursued by the curate of that place, who seems to have the credit of being an evangelical minister. It appears that some time ago the writer was admonished by the curate on the illegality of the baptism of a child of his, because the ordinance had been administered by a methodist minister, its father being a member of that body. Baptism, he contended, could only be legally administered by the church, its ministry being traceable to the apostles. The child in question (of which our correspondent is the father) died on the 28th ult., and the curate sent word to its parents that he would not inter it. All the arrangements, however, being made for the funeral on the 31st ult., the corpse of the child was taken to the parish church for interment. The curate did not make his appearance, although aware of the circumstance, and the child was therefore buried without any funeral service at all being performed. We understand, also, from our correspondent, that a case of the same character occurred on the 5th inst. at the same place, in the case of the interment of a young man about twenty-five years of age, also the son of a Wesleyan methodist. These acts will by no means help to convince the public that the clergy are successors of the apostles.—*Stamford Mercury*.

METROPOLIS CHURCHES FUND.—On Sunday morning, in accordance with the request contained in a letter recently issued by the Bishop of London, collections were made in every church and chapel throughout the diocese of London, in aid of the fund for erecting additional churches in the metropolis.

We understand that it is the intention of the Earl of Carlisle to rebuild Naworth Castle in a style of princely magnificence.—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

Correspondence.

SLAVE-GROWN SUGAR.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

An article appeared in the *Nonconformist* of the 22nd of last month, "On the Duty of Government in relation to Slave Produce," which I would have noticed the following week, but was prevented by an unusual press of engagements. We can differ in opinion without any breach of friendly feeling; but I acknowledge that this article has given me no small pain—far less from regret at being at issue on an important question, with a writer with whom it has afforded me so much pleasure to unite on many great principles, as from sorrow at seeing him defend his position by an argument which appears to me to strike at the foundation of the universality of Christian love. After speaking of the right of government, and its proper and legitimate functions, it is stated—"it is clearly one object of those functions to protect from injury, by fraud or force, the property of its own subjects; and, in attaining this object, its duty to punish the receivers of stolen goods must be admitted. There is no correct analogy, however, between this restriction of the right, and that which would prevent commercial dealing with slaveholding states. It does not follow that, because government, in protecting its own subjects, draws a certain line across the exercise of an individual right, and says, 'Hitherto shalt thou go, and no further,' that it is bound also to impose the same restraint in favour of humanity at large. The interests of humanity at large have not been committed to its keeping. Its business is to protect its own subjects; and, having done this, it has, in its governmental capacity, accomplished every object for which it was instituted." According to this view, the power of government is limited to the protection of its own subjects—it has no power whatever to restrain them from inflicting any kind of injury upon the inhabitants of the world at large. If such be the limitation of government, I cannot see that it has any foundation in the revealed will of God.

Under such a system, it appears to me, every enormity that man has committed against his fellow-man—the atrocities of the slave trade—the unsparing destruction of the helpless Aborigines—piracy and murder, in every shape, might be perpetrated by British subjects with perfect impunity from their own Government, provided it was not against their fellow-countrymen.

I cannot, for a moment, subscribe to such a doctrine as this; indeed had I nothing more to convince me of the soundness of the ground taken by the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society on this subject, but the arguments of their opponents, they would be quite sufficient.

It should be borne in mind, that this society does not profess to represent any but those who hold the opinion, that slavery "is contrary to the eternal and immutable principles of justice, and the spirit and precepts of Christianity; and is, therefore, a sin against God." They affirm that the holder of the stolen man is a really guilty with him who stole him—that the produce of the uncompensated toil of the slaves, is not the property of the thieves who hold them in bondage, but of right belongs to the wretched producers.

That it is the duty of individuals maintaining this opinion, to use every legitimate means of excluding from the country those articles which they have no means of purchasing of the rightful owners.

The converse of this principle of action would, if carried to its full extent, admit of no interference by the government with the import of slaves, for working the mines of Cornwall or the collieries in Staffordshire.

I am aware that the disadvantage of a controversy with an editor is greatly increased in the present instance, both by the ability of my opponent and my own want of time and qualification to do justice to the subject, but I could not feel excused without saying thus much; and I hope my silence to any remarks in reply, will not be construed into an admission that I have altered the views now stated. I am, respectfully,

JOSEPH STURGE.

Birmingham, 8th month, 8th, 1844.

CHURCH ESTABLISHMENTS AND CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—Among the many important facts and principles that were elicited and urged during the deliberations of the late "Conference," it appears to me that there was not sufficient prominence given to one very serious and interesting aspect of the establishment question. I refer to the evil influence which the working of this anti-christian system has exerted upon the formation and prosecution of missions. The full investigation of the connexion that ever must exist between the prevalence of correct views respecting the nature of Christ's kingdom, and the influence of the missionary principle, would, I think, bring out many most interesting as well as most important facts bearing upon this matter. It is true that the obstacle which an exclusive and state-incorporated system of Christianity casts in the way of missionary operations, comes under the general charge which yourself and others bring against establishments; but it is not unreasonable to suppose, that a clear and forcible exhibition of the specific bearing of this question on missions, as such, would tend greatly to enlighten and arouse the minds of those who take so deep an interest in all that concerns the missionary work. Interwoven as this system is with all the relations of social life, and with all the benevolent workings of the gospel, to enter into a complete *exposé* of all the multiplied forms in which the evil shows itself, would be an almost endless task. And though the magnitude of the object to be gained, and the unnumbered and unseen impediments yet in the way of securing it, ought not to make us despair of ultimate success, nor lead us to shrink from the prosecution of an enterprise promising so much good, it behoves us to select some of the special and more obvious modes in which its evil influence is developed, and so to expose these that the minds of people may be arrested and compelled to conviction.

The question of civil establishments of religion is now, in its various aspects, becoming so much the question of the age, that its bearing on missionary operations really ought not, and one would think, among dissenters, really would not, now be overlooked. Yet in the proceedings and speeches at the recent missionary and other meetings, this important point, at least with respect to foreign missions, was entirely lost sight of. Much was said, and, perhaps, much more might have been said,

about the interruption of our missionary operations at Tahiti and in Madagascar. These are matters which every right-minded and feeling man must of course deplore; but, Sir, I would ask, with a solemn sense of the seriousness of the question, whether a full and candid examination of all the circumstances of the case would satisfactorily show, that there has not been, among those who have prosecuted the missionary work in those countries, some disposition to lean on something else beside the power and energy of Christianity itself?—that there has not been some want of faith in the sufficiency of Christianity to spread, to defend, and to support itself? I cannot but think these are important questions in connexion with the history of modern missions, as well as in reference to the whole history of the church. The events that have recently transpired in the South Sea Islands, and in Madagascar, loudly and imperatively call upon the friends of missions to examine into their possible causes; and, if they can be traced up to the operation of some modification of the establishment principle, is there not some reason to fear that similar results will show themselves in other parts of the missionary field, and which are now being cultivated with apparent prosperity and with fair prospects? Of one thing there can be little or no doubt—that many of our missionaries have gone out to the scene of their labours with very vague notions upon this subject. This, however, need not occasion much surprise. Yet it must be admitted to be a matter of no small importance that, on a question of so much moment, all who leave our churches to prosecute the missionary work in the present day should have clear and well-founded opinions. To ascertain how far this might really be the case, I made it my duty to attend the ordinations of the several missionary brethren who are now on the point of leaving this country in the "John Williams;" and at neither of the three different designation services which I attended was the slightest reference made to this matter—no admonition tendered on the one side, no intention expressed on the other, to avoid and to abhor all trust in anything like the patronage of the civil power in promoting Christianity.

This might suggest many interesting reflections; but, if you have thought these remarks worthy of a place in your columns at all, they must already have been too extended; and, therefore, with an apology for their length, I beg to remain, yours very truly,

Highbury. ©

AMICUS.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

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BILL READ A FIRST TIME.

Sugar Duties bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Dissenters' Chapels bill.
Sugar Duties bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

County Coroners bill.
Commons Enclosure bill.
Vinegar and Glass Duties bill.
Vestries in Churches bill.
Dissenters' Chapels bill.
Savings' Banks bill.

READ A THIRD TIME.

Forestalling, &c., bill.
New South Wales Government bill.
Vinegar and Glass Duties bill.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, June 5th.

COMMONS ENCLOSURE BILL.

Lord Worsley announced that he had been in negotiation with the government for modifying his measure, and asked leave of the House to commit it *pro forma*, with a view to the re-introduction of it in another shape.

Colonel SMITHSON said that, this being the case, he would not now offer that opposition which, at the proper time, it was his determination to attempt and follow up.

Mr HUME was of opinion that these measures were always injurious to the poor, and beneficial only to the great 'squires. If a bill of this kind was to be brought forward at all, it ought to be made a government measure. He wished that Lord Worsley would withdraw the bill for the present session.

Lord SANDON concurred in this recommendation. There were involved in such a bill many nice questions, connected with the rights of property, and requiring a more mature consideration than they had received in the bill now before the House. He had no objection to the commitment of the bill, with a view to its being discussed and printed for circulation, provided no attempt were made to pass it in this session.

Mr H. BERKELEY was adverse to such measures. He would not force the poor from the fresh air and flowers, to inhale the dust from the carriage-wheels of the great.

After a few words from Mr AGLIFFEY, Lord J. MANNERS, Colonel WOOD, and Mr C. BULLER, in favour of the principle of the bill, it was committed *pro forma*; after which the House went into committee on the Coroners' bill, and, having sat for a short time, adjourned at seven o'clock.

Thursday, June 6th.

DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.

After the presentation of great numbers of petitions for, and still larger numbers against, this bill,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading—that great numbers of the petitions presented

against the bill were founded upon misapprehension. There was nothing in it to affect injuriously the property of the Wesleyan methodists, and the church had no interest at all in the subject-matter. The necessity of the bill was shown by the state of the Hewley charity cause.

The House of Lords had decided that neither the church of England nor the unitarians were entitled to the property. But, on the other hand, they had not decided who was entitled to it, and at that moment it was as much a matter of dispute what class of dissenters were entitled to the benefit of the charity as it was fourteen years ago. The case was still in dispute in consequence of a new information having been filed to ascertain to whom the property belonged, and it was as likely to last another fourteen years, if the funds of the charity would meet the expenses, before the ultimate decision was come to as to the right to the property. He (the Attorney-general), as a member of the church of England, felt every respect for the conscientious feeling which induced members of the church to present petitions against a bill, the effect of which they supposed would be to encourage doctrines hostile to the faith they professed; but, at the same time, he apprehended it was now too late for them to inquire whether the legislature had acted wisely or not in extending a complete system of toleration. That had been the spirit of the legislation of the country for a long time past.

Before the Toleration act, any gift of foundation, for whatever class of dissenters, would have been illegal. The Toleration act itself excluded from its benefits the Roman Catholics, and the protestants who were not trinitarian. To relieve these two classes of dissenters, enactments were from time to time introduced into the legislature. The proposition against which the present bill directed itself was, that where no particular sect was designated by the founder, the founder should be deemed to have intended the charity for the sect he himself belonged to. But this bill, while it combated that proposition, would not interfere with any case where the foundation deed designated any particular sect.

By the law as it now stood, there was no doubt that a party might, if he thought fit, give land or money for religious purposes, and that, if he gave it to Roman Catholics or any other particular sect, and for them alone, the will of the donor must be binding; but he did not think, and he said it with great deference, it could be assumed that in every case in which a charity was founded for religious purposes, it was founded for some particular sect, unless that sect were specified. They had no right to assume that the founder intended it for any particular sect or doctrine, even though he himself might have professed that particular doctrine, when such was not set forth upon the face of the deed. The bill applied a remedy to this; but it did not interfere with the right of will or gift for a specific purpose, nor with the right even of congregations to make a purchase of land for the purpose of building a chapel for a particular sect, where such appeared upon the face of the deed.

It was a mistake, therefore, to treat this as a bill enabling trustees to violate their trusts. The trustees of a foundation chapel had generally no power over the doctrine to be taught there.

The origin of these chapels, as far as this bill was concerned, was in this way:—congregations of dissenters from the church of England, wishing to establish places of meeting and chapels of worship, formed together voluntary associations, which associations subscribed funds, purchased the land, and built their chapels. The chapels, in the first instance, were vested in trustees, which was necessary, there being no corporate body. But he was told that so little had the trustees to do with the arrangement or control of those chapels, that, in the great majority of cases where the original trustees died off, no fresh trustees were appointed to succeed them, the congregation relying upon possession. Who appointed the ministers? Why, the congregation, and not the trustees. It was the congregation, also, who paid them, and removed them. The trustees had no more power over the doctrines preached in the unitarian chapels than perfect strangers.

In the cases now in question, the congregations for the last fifty years had been chiefly unitarian. These unitarians had borne all the expenses—had built, rebuilt, repaired; and was it reasonable that all the existing edifices should be taken away from those who had thus, from generation to generation, maintained them, and regarded them as their own, and that strangers should be placed in possession? Lord Chief Justice Tindal had laid it down that the language of a founder was not to be construed by evidence given *ab initio* of the founder's religious or political opinions. It was not fitting that the highest questions of divinity should be discussed in court, and referred to the Master's office. This bill gave weight to usage, and, as usage was allowed to have weight in all matters of private right, it was no unfit guide for interpreting the muniments of a religious foundation. But, wherever a trust for a particular faith appeared on the face of the deeds, there the usage would have no place, and the present bill no application.

Sir R. INGLIS moved as an amendment, that the bill should be read a second time on that day six months; and in doing so, he maintained that the church of England had a strong interest in the principles which the bill contravened. He admitted the effect produced by the support of the law lords and of the government; but the question now was not what the law is, but what the law is to be made? He complained of the alteration which, in the last stage of the bill, the House of Lords had introduced into the last clause, and which authorised that any pending suit might, on the defendant's application, be settled in accordance with the principle of this bill, upon payment of costs.

Mr PLUMPTRE seconded the amendment, contending that the bill would inflict a fatal blow to the Christianity of this country, and afford pernicious encouragement to error.

Mr MACAULAY declared his approval of the bill, and gave full credit to the ministers for the purity of

their motives in supporting it. The petitioners against it had proved their misunderstanding of it by treating what was really a question of property as if it were a question of divinity.

Such a question it was not proper to connect at all with the subject. If the promoters of the bill were "orthodox" there was no reason why they should be allowed, by the plunder of others, to enrich themselves; if "heterodox," that was no reason why they should be plundered to enrich others. And he could not reconcile it to his conscience to vote for the bill, were he not convinced that, if it favoured a sect to which he was opposed, he should not the less be compelled, by a sense of duty, to support it. If, instead of being a bill in favour of the unitarians, it were a bill in favour of the church, or a bill in favour of the Wesleyan methodists, or one in favour of the baptists, or in favour of the old seceders from the church of Scotland, or of the true church of Scotland, his language and his vote should be precisely the same.

The main principle of this bill was that which its second clause set forth—that prescription was to be proof of title. He maintained the validity of that principle, and appealed to its prevalence in all ages and in all countries. He vindicated the third clause, on the ground that all statutes of limitation had been, and necessarily must be, to some extent, retrospective. Besides, this kind of property could not be taken from the unitarians without thereby taking from them also the large sums which they had laid out upon buildings and improvements, and violating the associations of the living with the pulpits of their illustrious preachers now no more, and with the monuments of beloved relatives interred in those precincts; and he cited various cases in proof of this assertion:—

Let them take the case of Cirencester. That meeting-house was built in 1730, and since that time large sums of money had been laid out in embellishing the chapel, and now there were doubts as to the title. In Norwich there was a similar case. A library was attached to the chapel, and a school as well, both erected at the expense of unitarians, and at that moment they were hesitating as to repairing their chapel, till they knew whether their title was clear. There was a like case at Manchester; for seventy years unitarian doctrines had been taught there; it was the place where Priestley taught, years ago. In Leeds, too, at this moment, £4000 had been subscribed towards the repairs of the unitarian chapel, but those repairs could not be proceeded with till the protection of the House had been afforded. Wherever they looked there was the same story—at Maidstone, Exeter, Coventry, Bath, and numerous other towns. He asked, would the legislature consent to robberies in all these places; for he could use no other words? What associations had these chapels to the persons who wished to eject the present possessors? What regard had they for Priestley's pulpit? What regard had they for the monuments of unitarian divines? What feelings had they for the stones placed there by the present possessors over the graves of their wives, their sisters, and their brothers? They had no feelings but those which they would have for any other place which served as a roof over their heads.

It had been urged that the unitarians must have got possession of such chapels dishonestly, because such chapels, for the most part, were originally given to trinitarian dissenters; but the fact was, that as there was no stringent obligation to subscribe any specific articles, the preachers and the congregations had naturally and gradually glided into different opinions from those of the founders. He cited other cases where the same transition had taken place with the most perfect and undoubted fairness. He inveighed against the intolerance of those methodists who were opposed to this measure. He could have understood such conduct in ohurchmen, but he was really scandalised to see it among men who had themselves had occasion so often to invoke the principles of toleration.

Mr COLQUHOUN and Mr MILNES opposed the bill, and Mr BERNAL supported it.

Mr GLADSTONE treated this as a great question of justice; and declared that, in his opinion, this bill was opposed, not so much from theological animosity as from misapprehension. It must not be supposed that the generality of the cases would be found to resemble that of Lady Hewley. She was a foundress; but the generality of the persons who had associated in congregations to build chapels were not in the nature of founders; there was no obligation whatever to perpetuate the opinions of those original subscribers—no intention on their part to bind their own successors. Besides, through several generations, during which the presbyterians had been making common cause with the unitarians, no step had been taken at law by the former to assert these supposed trusts, though the state of them was as notorious all along as now. He then entered into some historical deductions, for the purpose of showing that the leading dissenters, towards the close of the seventeenth century, considered their creeds as open to progressive modifications with the increasing lights of the time, and that, in fact, progressive modifications of those creeds did take place, almost from year to year, at the end of the seventeenth and beginning of the eighteenth centuries.

Mr SHEIL declared that the Roman catholic body, to a man, were favourable to this bill. The object of it was to establish toleration—to quiet possession; it was a spiritual act of settlement, much needed in Ireland. If this bill did not pass, hundreds of clergymen and their families would be reduced to misery. There was now a cry against unitarians, as formerly against papists, and therefore this bill was unpopular; but it was a mistake to suppose that this bill was made for them alone: it was applicable to a twenty-five years' possession, of whatever sect. The honourable member concluded a powerful speech with the following ludicrous attack upon Sir R. Inglis:—

His (Mr Sheil's) attention had been particularly drawn to this part of the subject by a notice which stood on the order-book in the hon. baronet's name, in these

terms:—"Sir Robert Harry Inglis [a laugh], to insert in section 7 (saving royal residences, cathedrals, &c.), after the word 'erected,' the words, 'and the college of the blessed Virgin Mary, near Winchester'" [laughter]. He (Mr Sheil) thought that college was founded by William of Wykeham. But did not the hon. baronet know that William of Wykeham founded St. Mary's college, Oxford? Did he not know from history that William of Wykeham selected the Virgin for the patroness of his college, that he gave directions that services should be performed there in honour of her, and that three times a-day mass should be offered up for the repose of his soul, and an *Ave Maria* and a *Salve Regina* sung in the choir three times every night? Well, then, if there was a breach of trust in Lady Hewley's case, had there been no breach of trust in the case of this foundation of William of Wykeham [great laughter]? Why, the principle had been admitted at Exeter hall, under very peculiar auspices [renewed laughter]. A gentleman named Hamilton had said there, that if the saints in heaven (meaning, no doubt, the presbyterians) could only know the desecrating purposes to which their donations had been applied, they would shed tears such as immortals shed [loud laughter]; and he (Mr Sheil) said that if William of Wykeham could learn that his statue of the Virgin had been made the subject of iconoclast profanation—that his masses had been suppressed, and a litany in a modern tongue substituted, in the services for the imperishable language of Rome, his chagrin would be great; but if William of Wykeham could hear that which was worse than the destruction of his statue of the Virgin, worse than the fall of his altars, worse than the suppression of his masses, worse than the litany in a modern tongue—namely, that his own college, founded by a bull of Urban VI., was represented in that house by an hon. member, who was the terror of cardinals, the dismay of the conclave, and the scourge of Rome, how William of Wykeham would be amazed, and for the non-performance of his trusts how would he weep [peals of laughter]!

Sir R. PEEL said, that notwithstanding a preponderance of argument on one side unexampled in his parliamentary experience, he was desirous to state the grounds upon which he and his colleagues had determined to give their most persevering support to this bill. Its prospects were now much brighter than when that support had first been resolved on by them. When the foundation deeds were express this bill did not propose to disturb the intention of the founder, but when the words were merely "for protestant dissenters of the protestant denomination," it was too much to say that a specific trust existed. The precise object was probably omitted by the unitarian founders on purpose; because until very modern times their faith was not recognised by law. In the town he himself represented there was a bequest of an unitarian's daughter to an unitarian chapel, not legal, because given before the act of 1813. There was now religious harmony in that town; but how if a speculative attorney were let in upon this little endowment? The decision in Lady Hewley's case had brought litigation upon places always peaceable before; and not even for the purpose of benefiting the church of England. The unitarians of Ireland had been willing that the case of the English unitarians should be taken before their own—content that their own should wait; but the government thought this unjust, and resolved to include both cases in one bill; and this bill they had not adopted until every attempt at private and voluntary arrangement had failed. He did not believe that they were inflicting any wound upon religious feeling by this bill, but the contrary, and he concluded with a strong appeal to their Christian charity.

This is not the place for the profession of religious opinions, and I am not sure that at any time the perfect sincerity of any religious opinions can be ascertained by the mere profession of them. The sincerity of our religious opinions is shown much better by our acts and conduct than by our declarations in any place, much more in a House of parliament [hear]. The faith of a member of the Church of England rests on a totally different ground from that of those who are affected by this measure. Our hope of salvation rests on a different basis; but it is not inconsistent with the spirit and principles of our religion to bear in mind that, although faith is great, and although hope is great, yet there is one thing that is at least as great, which is that comprehensive charity that induces us to be tolerant of opinions which we believe to be errors, but, above all, to take care that we do not, on the ground of religious differences, which we dare not avow, act in the spirit of persecution by appealing to the doctrines of the law, and professing to maintain the principles of justice—to take care, I say, that we do not inflict the penalties of law in our anxiety to maintain the law, but really on account of our being opposed in religious opinion to the persons on whom those penalties may fall [loud cheers].

Lord JOHN RUSSELL stated his approval of the measure, and of the conduct of the government in its introduction. The bill was a settlement of the rights of property instead of a disturbance.

Lord SANDON said a few words amid a general cry for the division, which took place as follows:—

For the second reading	307
Against it	117
Majority for it	—190

Friday, June 7th.

PARISHES IN SCOTLAND BILL.

The LORD ADVOCATE, in a short speech, moved the commitment of the bill.

Mr FOX MAULE opposed it as unnecessary. In the last twelve months nearly 800,000 people had left that Scotch church whose parishes and places of worship this bill proposed to increase; while five hundred new places of worship had been erected for the reception of the seceding parishioners. If ever a necessity for this bill should arise, it would then be time enough to legislate for it. Regarding it as wholly unnecessary for the present, he moved that it should be committed on that day six months.

Mr P. STEWART thought it absurd to legislate for church extension in Scotland, at a moment when

the Scotch church had just been quitted by nearly a million of its people.

Mr HUME, Mr EDW. ELLICE, jun., and Mr WALLACE, joined in declaring hostility to the bill, the latter avowing his belief that it owed its origin to an evil purpose.

Sir J. GRAHAM denied this imputation. He showed that the principle of the bill was nothing new, but was consonant with the old constitution. Many ministers had seceded; but there had been no difficulty in finding fit and satisfactory successors to them. Had it not been for the secession, the opponents of the present measure would have been its warm supporters. Now the secession had not diminished its necessity in the larger and more populous parishes; and he deprecated the intervention of religious bitterness in defeating the objects of religion itself.

Mr P. M. STEWART explained; and, after some remarks from Mr FORBES and Mr SMOLLETT, on a division, the commitment of the bill was carried by 113 to 59.

The House then went into committee on the bill, and considerable discussion, as well as several divisions on the different clauses, took place. In the end the bill went through the committee, and was ordered to be reported on Monday.

Monday June 10th.

SUGAR DUTIES.

The order of the day for a committee on the sugar duties having been moved,

Mr JAMES rose to represent the hardship of the now proposed reduction in the duty on foreign sugar, as it would affect the British planters, a class to which he said he was so unhappy as to belong. They had invested their property on the faith of British legislation; and now they were treated ten times more harshly than the negroes had ever been, and all for the sake of rash theories of commercial reform.

Mr EWART thought that the proposition of the government was an evidence of the sagacity of Sir Robert Peel, who, disregarding taunts of inconsistency, felt the necessity of yielding to the growing pressure of the community on the means of subsistence. He urged the wisdom, as well as the expediency, of at once going still further, and, by equalising the duties on all sugars, to enlarge the amount of supply. The richer classes of this country consumed from 60 lbs. to 70 lbs. of sugar per head annually; but the humbler classes were only able to consume about 7 lbs. per head, and that of a quality adulterated by various expedients. Our foreign was of more importance than the colonial trade; and seeing the inevitable tendency of our commercial legislation, it would be wise in the West India interest to yield in time, and prepare for that which must come at no distant period. Justice would not be done to our commerce without a general system of reduction of import duties; and as a first step towards this, he would propose the equalisation of the duties on all sugars, foreign or colonial, and moved an amendment to that effect.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER excused himself from dealing with this motion at any length, on the ground that this proposal had been so often discussed on former occasions. He admitted that, if the revenue would allow it, a very large reduction of the sugar duties would be desirable, but not an entire withdrawal of protection by the equalisation of all the duties on that article.

Mr HUME appealed to his hon. friend not to divide. This motion would come better after the House had decided whether slave-grown sugar should be admitted or not. He objected also, that this was not the time to propose an equalisation of these duties. It was notorious that the planters were not now in the condition of being able fairly to compete with the foreign grower. Put him in that condition, and then compel him to compete; but this proposal was like asking a man to run when you knew his legs to be tied [hear].

Mr LABOUCHERE could not agree to go the length proposed in Mr Ewart's motion.

Mr MILNER GIBSON asked what claim the West India interest had on the manufacturing community? Encouragement to the colonies was discouragement to the community of this country. He wanted the reason of this differential duty; on what grounds the amount was fixed at 10s.; what was the principle or justifiable claim which led them to create this new discriminating duty? What officer of the Board of Trade was it whose business it was to measure the precise nature of the wants of the community, and the exact amount of protection which the colonies still required? This discrimination between free-grown and slave-grown foreign sugars might be followed by high discriminating duties against British manufactures on the part of other countries, especially the Brazils.

Mr VILLIERS remonstrated with ministers for not answering Mr Gibson, and told them there was a calculation showing the loss of this country by the differential duty.

A weekly publication presented an account of the amounts, weekly or annually, absorbed in the "protective" duties on sugar. The people lost, per week, £5,700, and, per annum, £70,000, by the sugar duties. And yet this protection neither rendered the colonies peaceful nor prosperous. Not four years since it was proposed to suspend the constitution of Jamaica for the insubordination and discontent said to be displayed there; and the planters now declared themselves quite "ruined" by the system.

Competition would compel those improvements in the cultivation of our colonies which would alone enable them to meet the foreign cultivator on equal terms. The best proof that emancipation was no positive disadvantage was the fact which Mr Gurney stated, that in the island of Antigua, where the po-

pulation was dense, the produce had doubled in six years. Other countries could not enter into the distinction which we drew between slave and free labour; we refused the slave-grown produce of the Brazils, and yet maintained friendly relations with such countries as Egypt, where the slave trade was openly carried on, accompanied with horrors in the transmission of the unhappy creatures from Nubia and elsewhere, worse than those of the "middle passage." They were maintaining a system which cost five millions a year, and yet was useless to those for whom it was maintained; and the government was bound to give some explanation of the reasons on which it rested.

Mr GLADSTONE said he had been silent, because the arguments for some protection had been stated repeatedly on former occasions; and, though there might seem to be some disrespect to Mr Gibson in not answering his speech, there was a still greater disrespect to the House in going over old arguments again and again. The short ground on which the government were now acting was, that the West Indians had been led by long usage to rely on some protection, and that they had not yet obtained the full benefit of free labour. He demolished, from official returns, some statistics introduced by Mr Villiers, relating chiefly to Antigua.

Dr BOWRING briefly supported Mr Ewart's views.

Mr VILLIERS struggled to maintain his own previous statement; and, after some conversation respecting Antigua, in which Lord Stanley and Sir W. Codrington took part,

Mr CORDEN protested against the argument that protection ought to be kept up because it had been enjoyed hitherto.

Every monopoly might, on that principle, be maintained to perpetuity. He opposed the argument, that a protective system was necessary for the purposes of the commerce of this country; and if he had the power to obtain exclusive privileges in respect to trading for the persons whom he represented he would not desire to have such exclusive privileges. All they wanted was, that the government should not meddle with their trade.

Why, there was no abuse which this reasoning would not justify. What was it that the West Indians asked? Not the benefit of the colonial inhabitants in general, but of the whites—a minority whose proportion was only about ten per cent.; and whose object was to reduce the wages of their general population by the importation of savages from Africa and China. Formerly, in 1640, the House of Commons had expelled monopolists.

On the 9th of November, 1640, a resolution was passed unanimously, disqualifying any person from sitting in that house who had any share in, or who derived any interest from a monopoly, and on the 12th of November following, it was also resolved, for the purpose of removing monopolists from the house, that if any member were aware of a monopolist being in the house, he should name him. The matter did not rest there, for it appeared that on the 25th of January following, the monopolist committees reported four cases to the House as coming within the orders of the House as respected monopolists.

And what was the difference between a monopoly then granted to certain gentlemen by Charles I., and a monopoly now voted to certain gentlemen by themselves? He could not propose a similar course now, because the majority of the members of that house were either sugar monopolists, or corn monopolists, or timber monopolists. For him, therefore, to vote for their expulsion would be ridiculous. It was his duty, however, to call the attention of the country to the fact, and he left it to the electors to banish the monopolists from the house. He believed the best thing which could be done for the West Indians would be to bring down all sugar duty to 16s. or 14s.; that would give the requisite stimulus, and bring West Indian industry to a sound bottom. There was a party in this house for a moderate monopoly; but the party in the country was for the abolition of all monopoly whatever.

Mr P. STEWART rested the claims of the West Indians on the past legislation of this country. It was always said by the free traders, "Show us what special burdens the land bears;" but if a committee were appointed, he could show in one sitting what special burdens were borne by the colonies, particularly in the restrictions upon labour. Much credit had been assumed for the slave compensation; but the twenty millions turned out to be only seventeen; the twelve years' apprenticeship turned out only six; and the promise of a supply of free labour had been unfulfilled. At the present time the British colonists were incapable of competing, unprotected, with the employers of slaves.

Mr BRIGHT contended that the experiment of protection had been wholly unsuccessful, though a very long one.

The West Indies, by this system, had lost much of its trade. No one disputed, on the other hand, that she had gained by high prices at the expense of the consumers of this country. But, then, high prices were not followed by prosperity; they were followed by progressive ruin. The results, on the whole, had been so bad, that the government were then about to make an important change, and materially to reduce the protection afforded to the West Indian colonies. The government, in his opinion, were merely introducing a change without bringing about a real alteration in the state of affairs. His advice to the West Indian proprietors was, that they should trust to their own resources, and endeavour to introduce more capital into the country.

Mr GOULBURN had said an ample supply of sugar was necessary for the people, and yet did not, by his measure, provide that supply. It was argued that protection was necessary because of the scarcity of labour; but the scarcity of labour had not been produced by the mass of the English people, at whose expense the protection was granted. Even if scarcity of labour were an argument for protecting West Indian sugar, it was no argument for protecting the

sugar of the East Indies and the Mauritius, where labour was not scarce at all.

In 1843 there were 2,503,507 cwt of sugar imported from the West Indies to this country, and upon that we paid a differential duty of 10s. the cwt, amounting to the sum of £1,251,753. In the same year the East Indies and the Mauritius produced 1,578,875 cwt, the duty upon which, at 10s. a cwt, amounted to £789,437. Now, according to the speech of the right hon. gentleman, it would appear that the object of the present bill was to give the people of England what he called "an ample supply" of sugar, and at the same time to give to the West India produce a premium of 10s. per cwt. He (Mr Bright) had a proposition to make for the accomplishment of this same object, which might, he thought, be acceptable to the right hon. gentleman, and to the West Indian colonists, whilst it would certainly be infinitely more advantageous to the consumer at home. He would propose that, instead of the additional duty of 10s. being levied upon every cwt of sugar, as this bill proposed, that so long as it was required by the West Indian planters, so long as we should pay to them direct the total amount of the tax as it affected West Indian sugar; namely, £1,251,753 per annum to be paid to every proprietor in proportion to the quantity of sugar his estate was sworn to have produced. By this means we should save the £789,000 now paid to the Mauritius and East Indian sugar growers—a sum which, looking at the many wants of the country, would be, he thought, just as well in our pockets.

He objected to these gradual extinctions of monopoly; for as long as persons of any class had any fraction of monopoly left, they were still tied to the monopoly principle, and withheld from joining the great party and principle of free trade.

Mr BERNAL spoke at length in defence of the West India interest, which had no desire to return to the old abominable system of slavery, but only required time and fair play to render the experiment of emancipation completely successful. They were taunted with compensation having been awarded to them; but though almost regretting that they should have accepted money, he denied that the sum awarded was compensation in any proper sense. Want of energy was also attributed to them, which it was alleged competition would alone remedy. But there was no part of the world where agricultural improvements were more actively going on, in the shape of the introduction of new machines and experiments with new manures. The old faith in colonies, as entertained with the welfare of this country, was declining; and the cry was free trade—import cotton and export calicoes, even if they should be left to bleach on the sands of central America. But free trade was a great experiment—he hoped it would prove successful when put in practice.

Mr ROEBUCK spoke of the West Indians as a bankrupt class, who stood between the poor of this country and a great article of consumption. It was not true, as was now alleged, that they had been dragged into the slave trade.

He was prepared to argue with the hon. gentleman that those who had undertaken to be dealers in sugar in the West India colonies had, from time to time, come to that house, demanding from it and from the people of England protection for their nefarious trade. They were the persons who had in every possible way fostered the slave trade—who had induced that House to countenance that nefarious and abominable traffic—and who, so far from being dragged into their present position, had been the inciters and promoters of the whole mischief. Now, he would defy the hon. gentleman, or any one else, to refute these assertions [a laugh]. Perhaps the hon. member for Oxford would answer him; but he begged to remind that hon. gentleman that he (Mr Roebuck) knew something of colonial history. Let that hon. gent. prove, if he could, that the people of England, unconnected as they were with the West Indian trade, had of themselves proposed to place any portion of the population of this country in the West India islands, or to foster the slave trade. He (Mr Roebuck) was ready, however, if he were called upon to do so, to show that hon. member that a certain small portion of the community of this country took possession of West India islands as adventurers, and had encouraged and established the slave trade [hear, hear].

That was the history of the slave trade, from Sir John Hawkins downward. The English people had made them a payment which was not merely magnificent, but extravagant; and now came the proposal, that instead of relieving the poor consumer, and producing a large revenue to the state, the government should perpetuate a burden for the sake of benefiting these insufficiently compensated West Indians. Mr Bernal was a free trader in corn; he had no sympathy with the loss which the landlords might sustain. Why was he so restrictive in favour of the planters? For his own part, he trusted that the principle of free trade would prevail, not only as to the article of corn, but also of sugar.

Lord SANDON observed, that Mr Roebuck had talked of the colonies as if they consisted only of a few planters. Why, they constituted a series of countries, consuming our manufactures to the annual amount of three million sterling—an amount greater than the consumption of the whole of the highly-prized market of Brazil. Even independently of the considerations of justice, he was persuaded that this motion ought to be rejected on the ground of policy. Our great national estate on the other side of the Atlantic ought not to be abandoned in a season of temporary depression: we ought rather to look to improved results from a supply of free labour. If this motion were adopted to-night, to-morrow's post would carry out an instant and prodigious stimulus to slavery and the slave-trade. He pressed upon the government the necessity of taking active measures for the provision of a supply of free labour.

Mr WARBURTON was for expending no more of the country's resources upon a colonial system which was confessedly sunk into a state of ruin.

Mr MACLEAN denied that the slave trade had been solely or chiefly the work of the West Indians. He referred to the treaties made by this country for al-

most a century and a half. He trusted that the reasons assigned by Mr Gladstone were not to be understood as intimating an intention of gradually letting down the West Indians; for he felt that protection to our domestic agriculture rested on the same principle with protection to our colonial interests.

The House divided, when there appeared—
Against equalisation of duties..... 259
For it 56

Majority for the continuance of protection 203

The House then went into committee; but, after some discussion respecting the arrangement of business for future evenings, the Chairman reported progress.

The House afterwards went into committee on the Vestries bill, and Mr YORKE suggested that, as it related to religion, it ought to have originated in a committee of the whole House; but the SPEAKER gave his opinion that the bill did not fall within that rule. After a little conversation, it appeared that there were but twenty-eight members present, and the House adjourned.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BANK CHARTER.—On Thursday evening Mr Muntz asked if the Bank of England were exhausted of its treasure, what provision would be made for the £14,000,000 of bank notes, which, by the new measure, are to be issued on securities? Sir Robert Peel replied that the Bank of England had control over £3,000,000 of these securities; the remaining £11,000,000 constituted the debt owing by the government to the Bank, and which would be paid, if necessary. But the case supposed was an extreme one, and not likely to occur.

MARRIAGE OF THE QUEEN OF SPAIN.—On Monday Sir Robert Peel, in answer to Mr Borthwick, stated that the government had received, in an informal way, proposals from Don Carlos, suggesting a marriage between his eldest son and the Queen of Spain, with a view to the tranquillisation of that country, and settling the question of the right to the throne. If this proposal were seriously entertained, Don Carlos would then state what sacrifices or concessions he was willing to make, in consideration of it. The British government did not think that the proposal would tend, in the present state of parties in Spain, to remove all causes of disturbance, and tranquillise the country; but they thought it to be their duty simply to transmit the proposals to the Spanish government.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday evening, the bill for enclosing Hampstead heath, called the estate bill of Sir T. M. Wilson, led to a considerable discussion, and was thrown out, on a division, by 31 to 20. The other business was routine.

On Friday evening, the Endowment of Schools bill was postponed at the suggestion of the Bishop of Salisbury. After some discussion, at the request of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Monteagle consented to postpone his motion on the subject of the import duties, till Thursday next. The Gold and Silver Wares bill was read a third time and passed, and the House then adjourned.

On Monday night, the Night Poaching Preventive bill was passed; the Copyhold Tenure Acts Amendments bill was read a second time; and the Law of Libel Amendment bill went through committee. Nothing of public interest transpired, and their lordships adjourned at an early hour.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

Birmingham, June 10, 1844.

The Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union met at their rooms, Waterloo street, this day—Mr Sturge in the chair.

THE MOVEMENT IN SCOTLAND.

The following is the report of the secretary, which was referred to in last week's *Nonconformist*:—

THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT IN SCOTLAND.

The Secretary stated that, as he had recently been to Scotland on a visit, and had incidentally gathered a few facts, from personal observation, connected with the suffrage movement there, it might be interesting to the Council to hear them. On reaching Glasgow, he found that the election for the Kilmarnock district of burghs was beginning to excite a good deal of public interest. Mr Vincent was then the only candidate in the field; but an impression prevailed that he had no intention of going to the poll. Several private meetings were held by the managing whigs of Glasgow, with a view to start a whig candidate; the Tories made a fruitless effort to move Sir James Campbell; and a few of the whig radicals contemplated Provost Lumsden as well worthy of the representation. Meanwhile Mr Bouverie had intimated his intention to stand; and Mr John Robertson, of London, soon after followed on the same side. An address from the Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union, recommending the electors of these burghs to support no candidate who would not pledge himself to vote for the full, fair, and free representation of the people in parliament, was by this time published in two of the Glasgow papers, and copies sent to Kilmarnock and the other boroughs to be posted. On arriving in Edinburgh, he found that the committee of the Edinburgh Complete Suffrage Association was all alive to the movement, and, besides sending a deputation to Kilmarnock to aid Mr Vincent, they held a public meeting on the subject; passed a resolution in Mr Vincent's favour; and, in the name of a large

portion of the citizens of Edinburgh, strongly recommended the electors of the Kilmarnock burghs to support him at the poll. It was the wish of some of the friends of the movement in Edinburgh that the Secretary should visit the burghs in Mr Vincent's behalf; but, on being assured that the Council of the Union rigorously abstained from interfering in any way at elections, beyond issuing an address such as the one already sent to Kilmarnock, they did not press their request. He attended three meetings of the committee of the Edinburgh Complete Suffrage Association—two on business chiefly connected with the movement in the country, and one for the purpose of registering new members. The earnestness, the zeal, and the unanimity by which these meetings were characterised, was truly refreshing. Diligently attentive to the wants of their own immediate locality, the committee were yet assiduous in their endeavours to supply those which were beyond them; for it appears that it was chiefly owing to their exertions that Mr Vincent's lectures were extended as far north as Aberdeen, and are now in course of delivery in Glasgow. Having confidence in his qualifications, they recommended complete suffrage societies in other towns to raise the necessary funds to defray the cost; and this course of action appears to have been so successful as to warrant the belief that, were every other large town in the kingdom to act on the same plan, in a brief space of time the principles and objects of complete suffrage would be understood and appreciated in every part of the land.

The General Assemblies of the Church of Scotland and the Free church of Scotland were both sitting while the Secretary was in Edinburgh. Being acquainted with many of the ministers and elders present, an opportunity was thus afforded of obtaining information as to the state of public feeling in almost every part of the country. The prevailing complaint was that of apathy and indifference on political subjects of almost every kind. This did not appear to have arisen, in the minds of the people, from any want of faith in the soundness and practicability of the principles of democracy, but rather from a feeling that, in the present circumstances, every effort to obtain the redress of grievances, and the concession of rights, from the legislature seemed hopeless. The majority of Sir Robert Peel was evidently a subject of much less regret than the want of an effective opposition; and it is worthy of special notice that, almost in every case, when the best means of redressing this grievance was the subject of conversation, all admitted the necessity and advantage of getting into parliament a few honest and determined men to carry out the supply movement. This movement has got a strong hold of the people of Edinburgh, which accounts for the fact that the petitions in favour of Mr Crawford's proposal received the signatures of 17,000 of its citizens in the course of a week or two.

On the whole, he believed there could be no question but that the democratic principle was spreading in Scotland. Events had taken place there during the last few years, which had tended, in many ways, to throw the people on their own resources, and at once taught the value of individual responsibility and action. They would soon realise the importance of united effort; and, in due time, contribute their full share of that great work by which the triumph of complete suffrage would yet be obtained.

SYMPATHY WITH AND APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

The secretary reported that the sub-committee, to whom it was remitted to prepare the address to the people of Ireland, had forwarded it to Dublin, on Friday evening. The following is a copy of the document:—

ADDRESS FROM THE NATIONAL COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

BRETHREN AND FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN!—Twelve months ago, the Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union entered "their solemn protest" against the "arbitrary and unconstitutional measures" then "adopted by the government, to suppress the free and peaceful expression of opinion by their fellow-subjects in Ireland." They "claimed for Ireland and Irishmen the unquestionable right of free discussion," and deprecated "the employment of British men and British money, to stifle by force the legitimate utterance of the popular voice." Since that time, we have watched each aggressive movement with feelings of sorrow, and now see, with indignation and alarm, Daniel O'Connell and his co-defendants immured within the precincts of a jail. But why should we be surprised at this? Arraigned under an indictment which has been characterised by the late Solicitor-general for Ireland, as a "disgrace to Westminster hall"—prosecuted by an Attorney-general who showed his contempt for all law, human and divine, by sending a challenge in open court to one of the counsel for the defence, which might have resulted in premeditated murder—tried by a jury which, instead of being composed of "twelve credible men who were neighbours to the fact, and UNEXCEPTIONABLE TO THE PARTIES CONCERNED," was, by accident or design, constituted exclusively of political and religious opponents, and presided over by a judge whose "spirit and partisanship gleamed forth from almost every paragraph of his charge"—the sentence which has now been pronounced was alone wanting to complete the unexampled insult which has thus been inflicted on an injured, high-minded, and generous nation.

Brethren and fellow-countrymen!—We sym-

• Magna Charta, conferred on Ireland by Henry III.

these with you in this fresh aggravation of Ireland's wrongs. But we have unmixed satisfaction in the conviction that no provocation will induce you to act unworthy of the great principles for which you suffer; and we indulge the confident hope, that these painful events will yet be overruled for the good of our common country.

In the meantime, it is our duty to consider what can be done to stay the present, and avert the still greater evils with which the future appears pregnant.

While we would encourage you in every legitimate effort, which can yet be made to obtain justice for Daniel O'Connell and his colleagues in prison, and shall hope for a favourable issue, whatever opinions we may hold as to the tribunal to which alone appeal can be legally made; we would embrace this opportunity of earnestly recommending united and persevering effort to obtain for the people of the United Kingdom a full, fair, and free representation in the Commons house of parliament. Had the whole people been represented in parliament, would Daniel O'Connell and his colleagues be in Richmond penitentiary to-day? Were they represented now, would they be there to-morrow? Complete suffrage implies complete redress for Ireland. The time was when "knights of the shires, citizens, and burgesses, were elected in the shires, cities and boroughs of Ireland, freely and indifferently to serve in parliament in England;" and then, says Granville Sharpe, "the inhabitants of both islands, though sprung from a variety of jarring, jealous, and fierce nations, acquired a certain mutual consideration and affection for each other, as fellow-subjects, which could never have been produced by mere alliances, guarantees, and defensive leagues." The inhabitants of both islands still have a mutual consideration and affection for each other as fellow-subjects; and though the hand of oppression and misrule is severely felt by both—though unnatural and un-Christian distinctions have been drawn by class legislation, yet Englishmen still feel that Irishmen are neither aliens to them in name, in language, or in blood.

In common with the people of England, you are oppressed by class legislation—the fruits of making political rights dependent on a property qualification. Suffer us to invite your cordial co-operation to obtain the franchise for every male citizen of twenty-one. Your great leader, who, not only as a member of our own council, has a peculiar claim on our sympathy, but also because he so emphatically condemns the resort to any violence even to obtain the dearest rights of his country, would, we are persuaded, hail such united effort as an additional earnest of future triumph.

It may be asked, by what peaceable and constitutional means we can unitedly achieve our political emancipation? Daniel O'Connell concurs in the judgment that it can be secured in the practical enforcement of the constitutional principle that redress of grievances should precede the voting of supplies. Tens of thousands of the people of England and Scotland have pronounced in favour of it; and a "monster" meeting of the inhabitants of Birmingham, at which Daniel O'Connell was present, declared it to be capable of obtaining the redress of Ireland's, as well as England's wrongs. Its power has been acknowledged by the first minister of the Crown, and its application to parliament is dreaded by all but the few independent members who have the good of our common country sincerely at heart.

Brethren and fellow-countrymen!—We sincerely congratulate you in being under the guidance of one whose love of peace has been stamped on every page of the history of this eventful crisis. At a time when most political leaders would have counseled an appeal to physical force, Daniel O'Connell was the unflinching advocate of moral power; and now, when the sound of his voice can no longer be heard beyond his prison walls, may peace be still the watchword of his attached fellow-countrymen, and a peaceful triumph their reward!

On behalf of the Council,
JOSEPH STURGE, Chairman.

Birmingham, 6th month, 7th, 1844.

EDINBURGH.—On Monday, 3rd of June, Mr Vincent was received by a large and respectable body of his friends, to congratulate him for the efforts he made to promote the suffrage cause at the Kilmarnock election. The meeting was composed principally of electors, and will doubtless have an important influence upon any future election in this city. John Dunlop, Esq., was called to the chair. He expressed the gratification he felt, at meeting his fellow citizens, after the important contest in which he had been engaged. He had attended with Mr Vincent throughout, from a deep conviction that such contests were the legitimate opportunities for the advancement of the principles of truth and justice. He was proud to bear testimony to the effect produced by Mr Vincent's masterly appeals to the constituency and people—appeals that were rendered all the more powerful from the moral and religious sentiments with which he impregnated them—and he might fairly say that Mr Vincent had left the boroughs with the respect of both friends and foes (cheers). He trusted that Edinburgh would be ready to do its duty whenever an election occurred. Mr Vincent (who was repeatedly applauded) gave a detailed account of the whole election, and entered into a full statement of the reasons why the suffragists should prepare to contest every borough. He playfully stated the reasons which would induce the opponents to oppose this policy, and excited the indignation of his truthful picture of the "liberal" papers called it. He ex-

pressed his determination to lend his individual support to any gentleman who appeared in any borough on complete suffrage principles, provided he would pledge himself to discountenance bribery and drinking, and the usual electioneering vices; but that, in the absence of better men, or of men willing to throw themselves into the position of duty, he would be ready to enter any city or borough in the United Kingdom, to fight the same battle (loud and repeated cheers), and was ready to brave the coldness of friends, the calumnies of the press, the malignity of foes, to discharge his duty to a cause that he loved better than his own interest [great cheering]. Thanks were then unanimously voted to the independent electors of the borough of Kilmarnock, who had voted for Mr Vincent. The following resolution was moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting having heard from Mr Henry Vincent a statement of the circumstances connected with the Kilmarnock election, beg to express their high admiration of his conduct in contesting the boroughs, and would warmly thank him for having so virtuously and eloquently diffused and defended the principles of complete suffrage."

Thanks were voted to the chairman, and the meeting dispersed.

GLASGOW.—On Tuesday night a very large meeting was held in the Great City hall, to hear an address from Mr Vincent. At eight o'clock, Mr Vincent entered the hall, accompanied by John Dunlop, Esq., and was received with repeated bursts of applause. Bailie Turner, of Thrusgrove, was called to the chair, and, in a complimentary speech, introduced Mr Vincent, whose reception was of the most enthusiastic kind. Mr Vincent addressed the meeting for at least two hours, giving a full statement of the circumstances connected with the election; and, without the slightest acrimony, excited no little laughter and indignation at the expense of the Glasgow whig press. He urged the Glasgow electors to be ready with a complete suffrage candidate. He gave a concise account of the tactics of the whig party, in electioneering matters, from the passing of the Reform bill; and showed that the constituency could not rescue itself from party tactics until they put up men of their own, and carried them to the poll in defiance of every obstacle. Mr Vincent's speech made a great impression, and, from the number of electors present, will contribute something towards a real fight for the true "liberal interest" in this city whenever an election takes place. Thanks were voted to the electors who supported Mr Vincent—and thanks were voted to Mr Vincent for his noble and independent conduct, with three times three cheers. Immediately after the meeting Mr Vincent departed by mail for the south.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Two lectures have been given in the Primitive Methodist chapel of this town, by Mr Henry Vincent. The first, on civil and religious liberty, was on Wednesday; and the second, on complete suffrage, on Friday last. The lectures were well attended, especially the second; and great interest was felt in the truths propounded; a salutary impression has been made in favour of the great cause of freedom. A vote of thanks was unanimously carried to Mr Vincent, amidst a tempest of applause. On Thursday night Mr Vincent addressed the friends of temperance in the Baptist chapel.

STOCKTON-UPON-TEES.—On Saturday evening, at the invitation of a few friends, Mr Vincent met the inhabitants of this town in the Odd Fellows hall. The hall was crowded by a most respectable audience; Mr Walley occupied the chair. Mr Vincent addressed the meeting on the state of the country, and the necessity of complete suffrage, and was much applauded. This is the first complete suffrage meeting held here, and it is gratifying to find how heartily the principles were received.

LEICESTER COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.—At the monthly meeting, on Tuesday se'nnight—Mr Parker in the chair—the attention of the members was chiefly occupied by Irish affairs. The chairman observed that this society was the only organised and acting body of reformers in the town, and it was naturally expected that they should take up so important a matter. He had been waited upon by various persons to inquire what was intended to be done. The secretary remarked that they were more directly interested in the proceedings in Ireland than many persons appeared to think; for the right of public meeting had been virtually abrogated, and it was expected that the Repeal Association would be put down. If these things were quietly submitted to, how long could political societies in this country expect to remain unmolested? After some conversation, it was unanimously resolved that the committee be requested to call a public meeting on an early day. On Wednesday evening a special meeting of the committee was convened, when it was resolved unanimously that a public meeting should be held.

THE COURT.—On Wednesday there was a grand review in the great park at Windsor, which was attended by the Queen, Prince Albert, the Emperor of Russia, the King of Saxony, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the Duke of Wellington, and a numerous party of nobility and officers of distinction. The Queen left the review early. The *Court Circular* says that "on her Majesty quitting the ground, she was received in the most gratifying manner by a crowd of spectators, unexampled on similar occasions." In the evening there was a grand dinner party at the castle. On Thursday the whole of the royal party, including the Queen, accompanied by a numerous suite, went to Ascot Heath races. On Friday the court returned to Buckingham palace. In the afternoon the Emperor went out to pay a round of visits. His Majesty first proceeded to Holderness house, on a visit to the Marchioness of Lon-

donderry. He remained about a quarter of an hour, and drove to Sir James Graham's, to pay a visit to the lady of that right hon. baronet. Thence to Grosvenor square, where he honoured the lady of Viscount Canning with a visit. The Emperor was subsequently engaged for some time with Baron Brunow in the transaction of state business; and, during the evening, a courier left London with despatches for St Petersburg. The dinner took place at an unusually early hour, in consequence of the concert by which it was succeeded. The company included the principal officers of state, the remainder of the guests being principally persons connected with Russia, or personally known to the Emperor. On Saturday the Emperor of Russia, the King of Saxony, Prince Albert, and their respective suites, left the palace at a quarter past one o'clock, to honour the Duke of Devonshire with their company at the grand *fête* given by his grace at his villa at Chiswick. The illustrious party occupied five (open) carriages and four, and were escorted by a party of lancers. In the evening the whole party, together with the Queen, went to the Italian opera-house. On Sunday, at five o'clock, the Emperor took his departure from the palace, having previously paid farewell visits to Sir R. Peel and the Countess of Pembroke; and was escorted to Woolwich by a party of the royal horse guards, and accompanied by Prince Albert. On arriving at Woolwich, the Emperor inspected the dock yard, and then embarked on board the Black Eagle on his return to his own dominions.

A SLIGHT "MISTAKE" AT THE GRAND REVIEW AT WINDSOR.—In consequence of the extremely delicate and highly interesting situation of our beloved Sovereign, strict orders were given by the Duke of Wellington, the Commander-in-chief, that at the grand review in Windsor great park, on Wednesday, no firing should take place until after her Majesty and the infant royal family had taken their departure from the ground. By some unfortunate error, however, these instructions were so totally mistaken, that almost immediately upon the Queen appearing in front of the line her Majesty was received by a royal salute from the artillery on the right flank. The Queen, however, suffered no inconvenience, but laughed very heartily at the "mistake," when informed of it by his Grace.

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—When the Emperor of Russia took leave of her Majesty at Buckingham palace, the Queen, Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and the Royal Princesses, were present in the Marble hall. On the departure of the Emperor, he graciously saluted the Queen, and cordially shook hands with all the ladies of the household. The Emperor left the munificent sum of 20,000 ducats to be distributed among the domestics. As a proof of the total disregard of the Emperor of Russia of the luxuries and splendour with which he was surrounded, we may state that the Emperor always slept on the ground, on a leather tick, stuffed with straw, as being more conducive to health. His imperial Majesty adopted the same course on the occasion of his first visit to this country in 1817.—*Globe*.

The King of the French has presented our native composer, Mr Balfe, with a splendid gold medal, value 4,000 francs, in acknowledgment of his consideration of the composer's talents, but particularly for the merits of the *Puits d'Amour* produced last season at the Opera Comique.

THE KING OF SAXONY.—We understand that the King of Saxony will leave Buckingham Palace on Friday or Saturday next for Scotland, attended by Lord Charles Wellesley, who has the honour of having been selected by the Queen to attend his Majesty. His Excellency Baron Gersdorff, his Excellency M. de Minkwitz, Count Albert Vitzthum, Major Reichardt, and Dr Carus, will accompany their Royal master in his journey to the north. After visiting Edinburgh, Perth, Glasgow, Stirling, &c., his Majesty intends to make a tour of Wales, and thence come direct to the metropolis, whence the King will shortly afterwards depart for Germany.—*Times*.

The *Times* contradicts rumours which have recently been in circulation, that the late Duke of Saxe Coburg died in debt, to the amount of £1,000,000—that several branches of his family have been trying to raise money to pay the debts—and that late reductions in our Queen's household had that object in view. The reports are utterly unfounded: the late Duke left £800,000 in money to his eldest son, after paying all his debts.

Sir Henry Hardinge, Governor-general of India, took his departure for India from his residence in Whitehall-gardens, on Saturday afternoon.

Thorwaldsen's celebrated colossal statue of Byron, which was presented to the chapter of Westminster, on condition of its being placed in the cathedral, beside the monuments of other poets, is about to be the subject of legal dispute. The chapter at first accepted the offer, but instead of placing the statue in the niche to which it was eminently entitled, it was left to rot in a cellar in the custom house. It was lately discovered that the statue had disappeared, and that nothing but fragments of the case containing the precious marble remained. Thorwaldsen's executor has in consequence commenced an action for damages against the London Custom house authorities, as indemnity for the loss, the sum claimed being £30,000.

It is rumoured that Lord Lyndhurst will retire from the lord chancellorship, on the prorogation of parliament. In this event, Sir W. Follett or Sir E. Sugden will probably succeed Lord Lyndhurst.

Mr Villiers' motion for corn law repeal stands, at present, for Tuesday, the 25th June.

The Bank bill is at present fixed to come into operation on the first of August.



The King of Saxony and suite, on Monday, visited Milbank prison, the Thames tunnel, and the Surrey Zoological gardens.

The King of Saxony was on Friday evening a visitor of both houses of parliament, a chair being placed for him on the floor of the House of Lords, in front of the bench of bishops; and the Sergeant-at-arms, in the House of Commons, resigning his chair for the accommodation of the royal stranger. Sir Robert Peel remained for some time in conversation with his Majesty, who seemed much interested with the appearance of the House, and watched the progress of the debate with marked attention. The subject of discussion was the Scotland Parishes bill, and a division being somewhat noisily called for, the Speaker gave the usual order, "Strangers must withdraw," but it was not enforced till the King retired, the debate being continued as a colour to the courtesy.

MID-DAY AND MORNING MAILS.—A most extensive change in the arrival of mail bags from the provinces has just taken place by order of the noble earl (Lonsdale) at the head of the Post-office department, as well as a farther increase in the number of despatches by morning mails. The following are the particulars. In consequence of the acceleration of the mails by railway between Dublin and London, it is found that the bags brought from Ireland can be brought up by the mails so as to be delivered in the metropolis the ensuing morning after they are posted, so that upwards of nine hours is thus saved in the delivery. Independently of this advantage, the mid day mail has been considerably lightened by this transfer of the bags; and by the change his lordship the Postmaster-general has been enabled to arrange that mails from seventeen additional towns shall be despatched, so that the letters may be delivered in London on the afternoon instead of the following morning. Subjoined is a list of these towns:—Belper, Barnsley, Chesterfield, Derby, Durham, Darlington, Hull, Leicester, Loughborough, Northallerton, Rotherham, Ripon, Sheffield, Selby, Thirsk, Wakefield, and York. This, coupled with the new arrangements for sending general, as well as London district post letters, for delivery every hour during the afternoon, will be a great convenience to the public, as parties in London may reply, if necessary, to their correspondents at the above towns by the evening mails from the metropolis. The new post towns added to the list of morning mails are Hurstgreen and Staplehurst.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE AVERAGE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF PROMISSORY NOTES, payable to bearer on demand, which have been in circulation in the United Kingdom, distinguishing those circulated by the Bank of England, by private banks, and by joint-stock banks, in England and Wales, by the banks in Scotland, by the bank of Ireland, and by all other banks in Ireland, and of the average amount of Bullion in the bank of England, during the four weeks ending the 26th day of May, 1844, in pursuance of the act 4 and 5 Victoria, cap. 50.

ENGLAND:—		£
Bank of England.....	21,604,000	
Private banks	5,142,830	
Joint Stock banks	3,680,413	
SCOTLAND:—		
Chartered private and Joint-stock banks	3,041,079	
IRELAND:—		
Bank of Ireland	3,663,500	
Private and Joint-stock banks	2,241,722	
Total.....	39,273,544	

Bullion in the Bank of England .. £15,572,000

THE SUGAR DUTIES.—The Leeds petition to Parliament, in favour of an equalisation and great reduction of the sugar duties, and of opening our market to the sugars of all countries alike, was forwarded to W. Aldam, jun. Esq. M. P., last week for presentation. So general is the feeling in this borough in favour of the reduction of the sugar duties, that this petition has received the very large number of 26,138 signatures.—*Leeds Mercury.*

A LITTLE FACT.—The public meeting of the Long Sutton Protection to Agriculture Society, convened a few days since, was attended by three gentlemen—the president, secretary, and treasurer of that association.—*Stamford Mercury.*

Postscript.

Wednesday, June 12th.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr BORTHWICK made a motion for a select committee to inquire into the "operation" of the Anatomy act. It was resisted by Sir JAMES GRAHAM, and, after some discussion, was refused by 49 to 10.

THE IRISH CHURCH.

Mr WARD then brought on a motion for a committee of the whole House, upon the present state of the temporalities of the Irish church. He should not have revived this subject, had there been any change in the policy of the government, but no effort had been made to conciliate the alienated feelings of the Irish people; and the ministers had even made the most positive declarations against any concession upon the subject of the Irish protestant church. He remembered an equally solemn declaration, in the same spirit, by the Duke of York, against catholic emancipation; but the emancipation was carried only four years after that declaration was made. Addressing himself to the statistics of the established church in England and in Ireland, he showed that while the English episcopal hierarchy assumed that it had to deal with a population of fourteen millions,

with the supervision of between ten and eleven thousand parishes, the Irish church had but 2,450 parishes, and only 750,000 episcopalians, for whose spiritual instruction it received the net annual revenue of £652,000, not to mention the many grants for education, glebe houses, tithe arrears, and so forth. He then glanced at the past history of the English policy in Ireland; traced the bulk of Irish grievances to the existence of so anomalous an institution as the established church, condemned by all reflecting men; amused the House by reading printed placards, announcing the sale of the effects of the late Archdeacon of Meath, in which racing horses, hounds, beagles, and all the *et ceteras* of a fox-hunting squire, were the conspicuous features; and contrasted the religious discord of Ireland with the religious peace of Tamworth, as described by Sir Robert Peel. He contended that protestant ascendancy was the main cause of all the disturbances in Ireland; made allusion to the late trials as a proof that no peace or tranquillity was to be expected under the present system; and concluded by calling on them to put an end to it at once, and by adopting the only course which can avert the repeal of the union, legislate for the empire, and accomplish the work commenced in the emancipation of the Roman catholics.

Lord ELLIOT opposed the motion, and contended that the security of the church was provided for by the act of Union. Catholic emancipation did not destroy the essentially protestant character of the constitution; and looking to the way in which the protestant clergy generally spent their incomes, especially in remote and poor districts, no greater evil could happen to Ireland than to take away the revenues of the establishment, and apply them to secular purposes.

After a few words from Mr Ross in support of the motion, Mr SHAW spoke in opposition to it. He combated the arguments, and disputed many of the statements of Mr Ward. He thought the general state of the church of Ireland might challenge comparison with that of any establishment in the world. The tithe grievance existed no longer, for the tithe formerly paid by the tenant, who was usually a Roman catholic, was now converted into a rent charge, paid by the landlord. He contended that a reforming process was rapidly proceeding in the dissolution of overgrown unions, in the extinction of sinecures, and in the discontinuance of plurality and non-residence. He was opposed to distinctions between religious sects; he disliked the cry of "No popery;" but if a cry of "No protestantism" was raised in one country, there would be a cry of "No popery" in the other. He rejoiced that this motion had been met with manly resistance by the government, and felt assured that the people would sanction no other principle.

Mr REDINGTON commented on Mr Shaw's statistics, and said, it appeared, from his statement, that one fourteenth of the clergy of the Irish establishment were absentees. For this a very sufficient explanation might be given. In his own parish there was not a single protestant; and in the union to which it belonged, not above thirty individuals attended the church. Such a state of things could not be prolonged for ever.

The debate was then adjourned, and the other business was disposed of.

In the House of Lords, the Earl of Powis moved the second reading of his bill for repealing the act uniting the sees of St Asaph and Bangor. The Duke of WELLINGTON opposed the bill, on the ground that it would interfere with the recommendations made in 1835, by the ecclesiastical commissioners, and would disturb the existing political arrangements respecting the number of bishops. A discussion of some length followed. The Bishops of Bangor and St David's supported the bill; the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of London and Lincoln opposed it. The Bishop of Exeter in supporting the bill, expressed his opinion that, if the feeling became general that the bishops ought not to sit in the House of Lords, he, for one, would not wish to retain his seat in it. The second reading of the bill was carried, in opposition to the government, by 49 to 37.

The King of Saxony and Prince Albert were at the Italian Opera house last night.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert yesterday laid the first stone of the new Hospital for Consumption.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, GRAY'S INN ROAD.—A numerous party of the subscribers to this institution, dined together at the London tavern yesterday evening in commemoration of its 16th anniversary. The chair was occupied by Lord Ashley, M. P., who was greeted with much applause on entering the room. His lordship was supported by Lord Robert Grosvenor, Viscount Ebrington, Viscount Sandon, &c. The usual collection was made in the room, and the sum of about £1,170 raised, including a donation of £100 from the Bank of England, a similar sum from the Hon. East India Company, £52 10s. from Dr Marsden, the founder (being that gentleman's third donation), £40 from Miss Harley, &c.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—The anniversary meeting of this society was held at the Music hall, Store street, last evening.—Lord Teignmouth in the chair, supported by the Bishop of Norwich and other friends of the cause. The proceedings were repeatedly interrupted, and eventually the meeting was broken up by the uproarious proceedings of a large body of teetotalers. The *Morning Chronicle* gives the following account of the closing scene, which took place whilst the Bishop of Norwich was moving the adoption of the report:—

'At this stage of the proceedings the teetotalers urged one of their representatives, a man named Miller, to get on the platform. Miller did so, and endeavoured to address the meeting, but was received with mingled cheers

and hisses. Great wrangling ensued, with much noise and clamour, which the noble chairman endeavoured, but ineffectually, to quell. The Bishop of Norwich advanced, and vehemently addressing Miller, said—Sir, I am a Christian man, and stand among Christian people; I appeal to you, sir (with your hand upon your heart, and unknown to me and the meeting as you are), to say whether your intrusion here is dictated by that Christian feeling and that principle of conciliation which ought to be the characteristic of this great cause [cheers and uproar, during which Miller retreated several paces on the platform, followed by the right reverend prelate, who continued]. Is it, sir, your intention to cast a firebrand into this meeting [renewed confusion ensued]? The noble chairman, after several ineffectual attempts to restore order, also enforced by Boatswain Smith, declared the proceedings adjourned, when the lights were extinguished, and the disturbers made their retreat."

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE ADDRESS OF THE COMPLETE SUFFRAGE UNION TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.—Mr Sturge received, on Tuesday morning, the following letter from Mr W. S. O'Brien, M. P.:—

DEAR SIR,—I lose no time in acknowledging the receipt of the address of the National Complete Suffrage Union, to which your signature has been affixed, on behalf of the Council.

It shall be read at Conciliation hall, on Monday next, and it will become the agreeable duty of the Committee of the Repeal Association to prepare a suitable answer. In the meantime, however, I need not wait until the meeting shall take place, to assure you that this testimony of sympathy with Mr O'Connell and his fellow-martyrs, will be received with gratitude, as an indication of a rising spirit of co-operation on the part of a portion of the people of England, in the cause of Irish freedom.

I remain, my dear Sir, faithfully yours,

Joseph Sturge, Esq.

WILLIAM S. O'BRIEN.

IRELAND.

THE WRIT OF ERROR.—In the court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, on the case of the Queen v. O'Connell and others being called, the Attorney-general rose and asked if it were the intention of the counsel for the traversers to argue the motion upon the assignment of errors? Sir Coleman O'Loughlin, in the absence of Mr Whiteside, Q. C., said it was not their intention to do so, as that had already been done in the argument of the plea of abatement, and they would, therefore, let the demurrer go by default. Chief Justice Pennefather said that the court had not seen the demurrer; but, as the counsel for the traversers had agreed that judgment should be for the Crown, it remained for the Attorney-general to regulate the form of it. The Solicitor-general said he would have it properly done. The matter then dropped.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.—The *Freeman's Journal* announces that the board of superintendence have issued orders against the publication of the lists of visitors at the levees of Mr O'Connell, it not being exactly in accordance with the rules of the prison that a book should be kept for the insertion of the names. The *Freeman* suggests a remedy for this inconvenience by requesting the parties to forward their cards to the office of that paper, where they shall meet the requisite attention.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The meeting on Monday was one of the most extraordinary popular demonstrations ever witnessed, affording evidence the most unquestionable that the incarceration of Mr O'Connell has advanced the repeal cause more, in a week or two, than all the "monster meetings." Lord Pffrench took the chair, and made a very impressive speech. He was followed by Mr W. S. O'Brien, Mr D. O'Connell, jun., and Mr H. Grattan. The total amount of contributions on the "second week of the captivity" was announced to be £3,200.

FRANCE.—On the subject of the Morocco question the *Times* correspondent says:—"It is, I am told, quite true that your government has demanded of that of France explanations on the subject, and that assurances have been given that France has no designs of aggrandisement in that quarter. At all events, we shall not have long to wait for the solution of the question, for every moment is expected to bring news of an engagement between the French and the new force under the Emir, and all the probabilities are in favour of the belief that the French, in a pitched battle at least, will be victorious. With respect to the quarrel of Spain and Morocco, no fears appear warranted. The acceptance of the offered mediation of Great Britain is a pledge that the matter will be pacifically arranged." Other news is unimportant.

SPAIN.—Accounts from Madrid state that a decree, rescinding the tobacco contract, had been forwarded to Barcelona, to receive the Royal sanction. Reports of a modification in the ministry were circulated at the Puerta del Sol. It was also rumoured that several decrees of considerable importance had reached from Barcelona. The *Heraldo* denounces a new outrage committed by the Moors:—

"Our Santiago correspondent," it says, "writes under date the 31st ult., that a Spanish merchantman was seen shortly before from Muros, floating at the mercy of the waves, and that the adjutant of the harbour had thought proper to send a boat to reconnoitre her. When the pilot mounted on deck, a frightful spectacle presented itself to his view. Twelve men were lying in the vessel, bathed in blood and decapitated, who appeared to have opposed a vigorous resistance to their assassins. No papers were found on board."

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour.
English ..	5210	70	1440			
Scotch ..						
Irish			17740			
Foreign ..			640			

Market dull. No variation in prices.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- "C. R. A." Yes! The volume will be published in a week or two.
- "D. Morgan." The work has been that of the Conference itself. It may be unfortunate, but it is the result of no design.
- Our Shoreham correspondent is not aware that we should be liable to advertisement duty.
- "H. Stone." Received with thanks.
- "An Independent Dissenter" will have all the satisfaction this week which we can render him.
- The Tracts from Ballina have been received.
- "W. H. H." Not "a perversion of vowels," but of consonants. We cannot attend to the matter further.
- "E. Thornton." We never express approval of what we are in utter ignorance of.
- "Henry Solly" will see our article.
- "W. B. H." We have done all that can be expected of us in such a trifle—given an opinion.
- "An Inquirer after Truth." A very commonly received opinion.
- "A Liverpool Elector." Sterling sense—but we have no room.

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 For 7 lines....6s. 0d. | For 10 lines....6s. 0d.
 For every additional line.....4d.
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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1844.

SUMMARY.

THE doings and sayings of the House of Commons—which House virtually means parliament, the House of Lords under the present government having nothing but by-play to engage it—have not been very various during the past week. Lord Worsley got a *pro forma* commitment of his Enclosure bill, on Wednesday night, with a view to its re-introduction in another shape. It seems that the measure has met with no great favour from the House, whereat, considering its object, and the character of the parties appealed to, we are greatly surprised. To whatever cause the fact is owing, it is a cheering one—for, doubtless the effect of the bill would have been to merge, as silently as possible, the few landed estates now possessed by the poor, in the already overgrown estates of their wealthy neighbours.

On Thursday the Dissenters' Chapels bill was read a second time, by the large majority of 190. The argument was truly stated by Sir Robert Peel to be all on one side. The debate presents us with several temptations to comment somewhat at large, and to push the liberal principles, enounced by more than one speaker, to their legitimate conclusions. We have dwelt so long upon the subject, however, in our ecclesiastical columns, that we are compelled to forbear. It is true we have there given our views only of that aspect of the question which relates to endowments. But the main principle which runs through our reasoning will apply equally to chapel trusts. We object to hinder the progress of mind by inseparably connecting with certain opinions the enjoyment of property, whether endowments or chapels. Truth needs no adventitious aid—nothing but the fidelity, energy, and vigilance, of her own disciples. The expulsion of unitarians from their present places of worship might have afforded a sectarian triumph, and rich spoils to needy attorneys and briefless barristers. But it would have been an act of great injustice to many congregations; and, whilst transferring to trinitarians the property which they claimed, must have transferred also much to which they can pretend to no title whatever. Sir Robert Inglis, and the Bishops of London and Exeter, are suspicious allies for any section of nonconformists; and we confess we are far from sorry to see that the alliance has produced nothing more than a dead failure.

The "Parishes in Scotland bill" went through committee on Friday. This is a kind of church extension measure—a measure such as the non-intrusionists before the disruption would have hailed. Now that the steed is stolen, the door is to be made fast—and at a moment when a million of her members have just quitted the Scotch kirk, Sir James Graham, thinks it necessary to multiply parishes—as if new parochial divisions could heal the breach between the state kirk and the Free kirk. Verily these statesmen are drunk with their own wisdom.

On Monday, there was another debate on the Sugar Duties bill, and, of course, another division in its favour. Ministers seem to flag in defending their anomalous position, and to bear in sullen silence the onslaught of their opponents. We are not surprised at this. Their hypocrisy is too transparent to deceive; and to play the hypocrite, under the consciousness that it is to no purpose, is peculiarly irksome. They are well known to have been amongst the most ardent supporters of sla-

very in our colonies, until the tide of national feeling overbore all their opposition to emancipation. And now to be condemned to base their policy exclusively upon anti-slavery professions, must be somewhat humiliating to men of their metal. We are only sorry to see them leaning upon the arm of celebrated and undoubted philanthropists. But on this subject we have given more in the article below.

Ireland is peaceful—and O'Connell remains in prison. What a view do those two facts give us of O'Connell's power! Ireland is peaceful, but not inactive. The repeal rent rises—the repeal ranks swell—crowds of visitors throng the prison of the victim—and meetings are being held all over the country. The agitation blazes out again. Fresh injustice has fanned it into a fiercer flame. Nor is England silent. Various public meetings are already announced. The National Complete Suffrage Union has issued a stirring and able address—and letters to the *Morning Chronicle* lead us to anticipate that Englishmen will gladly pay the fine.

Our capital has been visited by royalty. The Emperor of Russia has been here, and is gone. What could he want in these parts? Is he about to restore Poland to nationality, or does he seek favour of the Jews? It is said that in some places he was greeted with cheers. It might be so—but by none, we should imagine, but the members or the dependents of the aristocracy.

Other public intelligence is of very minor interest.

SLAVE-GROWN PRODUCE—THE PROPER SPHERE OF GOVERNMENT.

OUR readers will find addressed to us, in another column, a letter from Mr Joseph Sturge, to which we beg to call their attention. It has been elicited by an article which we put forth a short time since, under the title of "The duty of government in relation to slave produce." It will be seen that our respected friend controverts the main principle which we endeavoured therein to establish. It becomes us, therefore, to point out, with as much accuracy as possible, wherein we agree with Mr Sturge, and wherein we differ from him. We are confident that he is as anxious as ourselves that we should not be misunderstood—and for ourselves we aver, that if anything could enhance our regret that so distinguished and princely a philanthropist has taken up what appears to us an untenable position, it is that our own argument has tended to confirm him in the soundness of it.

The business of government, we stated in our recent article, to be "the protection of its own subjects"—"and, having done this," were marked "it has, in its governmental capacity, accomplished every object for which it was instituted." This sentiment appears to Mr Sturge "to strike at the foundation of the universality of Christian love."

Mr Sturge has, individually, as the history of his whole life proves, a very vivid perception of the duty which binds him, regardless of conventional or geographical limits, to seek the well-being of the whole family of man. Unconsciously, however, he transfers to human governments the same large class of duties, and would have them seek precisely the same objects which he, as an individual, is bound to promote. Now, let us not be mistaken. We have no idea that any man, simply by becoming a member of government, is absolved from that responsibility which every individual ought to feel in reference to the interests and happiness of his species. Far from it. What he owed to them before his elevation to office, he owes to them after it. The only question is, whether, after his connexion with the government, he is under obligation to superadd to his own personal exertions the appliances and machinery of government in carrying out his views—whether, in short, "the universality of Christian love" can be enforced by any but Christian motives, or be made to triumph by any but Christian means. The new order of machinery which comes under a man's control, when he steps from privacy into official life, consists of enactments and police. Are these the proper means to be applied to enforce "the universality of Christian love?" The question, be it remembered, is not "What ought to be done?" but "By what agency ought it to be accomplished?" We believe it to be the duty of every man to worship God in spirit and in truth—we believe, moreover, that it is his further duty to aim at bringing about the worship of God by the universal family of man; but we do not believe that, therefore, statesmen are bound to make laws, and to employ policemen, in attaining so desirable an end. The business of law making, and of enforcing by penalties the observance of laws, constitutes a class of means which, however zealously applied, can no more secure the universality of Christian love than the universality of Christian worship; but it may, and it does, by aiming at such results, create inextricable confusion in our social and spiritual relationships.

The cases which Mr Sturge adduces to show the unsoundness of our position—the atrocities of the slave trade—the unsparing destruction of

helpless aborigines—piracy and murder—are unquestionably strong ones; but we doubt whether, upon examination, they will be found strong enough to overset our argument.

Let us take the instance of the slave trade. None can reprobate more strongly than we do that nefarious and infernal traffic; and, assuredly, if all governments confined themselves to the duty we have assigned to them, the abominable crime could not exist. But since there are governments which go abroad for the purpose of inflicting injustice upon others, or who shelter and abet their own subjects in doing so, the question occurs, whether it thereupon becomes the duty of another government to interfere for their prevention; whether its interference is legitimate; and whether, on the whole, it is calculated to work out beneficial results. Now, we are bound to affirm our opinion that the history of our own attempts, by governmental means, to put down the slave trade, affords no strong argument for the employment of these means in favour of humanity at large. During how many years have we been at work? How have we succeeded? Have we greatly diminished the accursed traffic? Have we not, undesignedly, increased to the poor kidnapped victims the privations and horrors of the middle passage? What blood and treasure have we not expended? And is the result such as to encourage our perseverance? What is the inference? That Englishmen are to look on in silence, and witness, without an effort to prevent it, these dreadful enormities? Not at all! But that they should appeal to some other power, should construct and work some other machinery, for the accomplishment of their object, than that of government. Providence has denied them success in their present efforts. They have meddled, at great cost to themselves, and with small benefit to others, in this unholy system—and their failure may well suggest the inquiry whether they have meddled after the right fashion—whether they have wielded the proper instrument—whether, instead of devolving the duty on government, they would not do better voluntarily to combine as Christian men, and seek the extirpation of the crime by a kind of agency upon which heaven's blessing might be expected to rest.

Mr Sturge argues that, if our theory of the sphere of government be true, it follows that "the unsparing destruction of helpless Aborigines might be perpetrated by British subjects with perfect impunity from their own government." We reply that that destruction is in almost every instance to be traced to the departure of government from its proper sphere. We seize upon colonies by force of arms—we maintain them by ships of war and soldiery—we embolden reckless adventurers to settle in them—and out of this, our original crime, springs another crime, which we are under the necessity of putting down. Wickedness often places itself in a position in which it has to consider which of two iniquities will be the least; and, doubtless, under such circumstances, it is best, on the whole, to choose the least. But iniquity can never become a duty. The original mistake lies in seizing upon the defenceless; and then, by our policy, exposing them as a prey to the unprincipled. But let it not be forgotten, that even then the rule we have laid down holds good. The aborigines of such colonies become, by conquest, the subjects of the government which invades them. Thenceforth, they are amenable to our laws, and may demand our protection. He who injures one of them injures a subject of the British realm. Nor does our view involve the conclusion that he may perpetrate the act "with perfect impunity from his own government."

The case of "piracy" cannot legitimately be adduced against us. Pirates are the common robbers of the world, against whom *its own subjects* may properly require, from every government, adequate protection. They cannot carry on their commerce in the face of these pests of the ocean. They are right in asking defence—and government is right in extending it. Its business, as we have defined it, is to protect the life, liberty, and property of every one of its subjects; and it is bound to do so, not only against the fraud and force of fellow-subjects, but, to the extent of its means, against the whole world.

Nor does it seem to us that the principle which we have laid down, "would, if carried to its full extent, admit of no interference by government with the import of slaves, for working the mines of Cornwall or the collieries of Staffordshire." The inference has surely been drawn from our premises without due consideration. For what is a *subject* of the realm? Every one, we imagine, bound to obey its laws. But this a man is bound to do, as soon as he sets foot on the soil of the country. Now, obedience and protection are correlatives. If slaves were imported to England for the purposes supposed, they would, on coming under British sway, acquire also British rights—would demand, nor demand in vain, at the hands of the government to which their allegiance for the time being must be transferred, the protection against all fraud and force, of their lives, freedom, and property. This is not merely a fact

—but a fact in perfect harmony with our fundamental position.

Having thus set forth the difference of opinion between ourselves and Mr Sturge, we turn with the more pleasure to those points wherein we agree with him. We hold, in common with himself, and with the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society, the opinion that slavery "is contrary to the eternal and immutable principles of justice, and the spirit and precepts of Christianity; and is, therefore, a sin against God." We affirm with him "that the holder of the stolen man is equally guilty with him who stole him—that the produce of the uncompensated toil of the slaves, is not the property of the thieves who hold them in bondage, but, of right, belongs to the wretched producers." We believe with him "that it is the duty of individuals maintaining this opinion, to use every legitimate means of excluding from the country those articles which they have no means of purchasing of the rightful owners." All that we deny is, that governmental interference is one of those legitimate means. This is the real point in dispute—the only point. And the view we have been accustomed to take of it remains, in our dispassionate judgment, unaffected by the arguments put forward for its overthrow, in the letter of our esteemed correspondent, Joseph Sturge.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON GAMING.

THE select committee appointed to inquire into the existing statutes against gaming of every kind, to ascertain to what extent these statutes are evaded, and whether any and what amendment should be made in such statutes, have presented their report. We are happy to say that, on the whole, it is a remarkably common-sense and satisfactory document. The salient points of it we proceed to place before our readers.

The first class of laws which the committee have described, comprise all those, which on political grounds, aimed at the prohibition of certain games and amusements. These, as now obsolete and impolitic, the committee recommend parliament to repeal.

The second class comprehend those which were of the nature of sumptuary laws, being intended to prevent what the framers of those laws considered excessive gaming. In recommending that such acts should be expunged from the statute-book, the committee make the following remarks.

"In earlier periods of European civilisation, it was thought to be the duty of governments to exercise a minute superintendence and control over all those private actions of the members of the community, which, through their operation upon the interests of the individuals concerned, could be supposed to bear indirectly upon the general interests of the community at large; and, for this purpose, governments thought themselves not only entitled but bound to restrain the imprudence of private persons, and to protect them against the consequences of their own improvidence.

"This notion was not confined to despotic governments; but was shared by representative legislatures: and thence arose the laws on our statute book which prescribed to the different classes of the people what apparel they should wear, what games they should play at, what amount of money they might win or lose, how their tables should be served; and which established many interferences with the free action of individuals in the management of their private concerns.

"Such regulations are out of date; and nobody now disputes the opinion of Adam Smith, that governments ought not to pretend to watch over the economy of private people, and to restrain their expense by sumptuary laws; but that if they look well after their own expenses, they may safely trust private people with theirs."

The principle here laid down is a sound one. Would that it were consistently carried out in every department of government! Statesmen, hitherto, have mismanaged almost everything by undertaking to manage what no reasoning, however specious, can legitimately place within their proper sphere. Established churches, prohibitory sugar laws, and factory bills, show how little confidence they have in the *laissez-faire* principle, when urged in reference to the larger interests of humanity. They have given up prescribing the food, dress, and amusements of the people—they still persist in regulating their trade, commerce, and religion. And yet, assuredly, all the arguments which apply in the first class of cases, are applicable with tenfold force in the other. Wagering to any amount is an evil to be deprecated, but it is an evil which legislative severity is not the proper instrument for restraining or destroying. The committee have recommended a much wiser thing—and their recommendation will best be given in their own words:—

"But your committee, while they recommend that wagering should be free, and subject to no penalty, are also of opinion that wagers are not matters which ought to be brought for adjudication before courts of law. The law of England considers wagers in general as legal contracts; and the winner of such a wager can, therefore, enforce his claim in a court of law.

"The law of Scotland is different in this respect; and the courts in that part of the United Kingdom have held, 'that they were instituted to try adverse rights, and not to determine silly and impertinent doubts or inquiries of persons not interested in the inquiries in question;' and they have decided 'that their proper functions are to enforce the rights of parties arising out of serious transactions, and not to pay regard to *sponsiones ludicre*.'

"The Scotch courts have, therefore, declined to take cognisance of claims for money won by wagers, and your committee recommend that the law of England should in this respect be assimilated to the practice of Scotland.

"If private individuals chose to make wagers with each other, there seems to be no good reason why they should be prevented from doing so, or why they should be punished for so doing; but neither, on the other hand, does there seem to be any sufficient reason why the valuable time of the courts of law should be consumed by adjudicating disputes which may arise between individuals in consequence of such wagers. Such disputes appear to be of the nature of private differences, which, not turning upon the construction of any law or statute, are matters for private settlement rather than legal adjudication; and such disputes must frequently involve the statement of a variety of trifling details, little suited to the dignity of a court of law, and as to which such court could have no peculiar competence to judge.

"Your committee, therefore, recommend that the courts of law should be entirely relieved from the obligation of taking cognisance of claims for money won by wagers of any kind. Persons wagering together should be left to take their chance as to getting from the party with whom they have wagered the money which they may have won."

The third class of laws on this subject relate to cheating, and other unfair practices, in games upon which money is to be lost or won. The committee give it as their opinion that frauds of all kinds should be punishable by law, and that no man should be permitted to enjoy impunity who attempts, in any way whatsoever, fraudulently to obtain money from another.

The last class are those which prohibit common gaming houses as public nuisances. These the committee would render somewhat more stringent; but in reference to the clubs, such as Brookes's and others, frequented by the aristocracy, they are characteristically delicate in their mode of expression.

"Your committee think that it would be very desirable that some measures should be adopted for the purpose of suppressing gambling tables kept by the proprietors of clubs, the mixed character and the regulations of which render it doubtful whether they properly fall within the description of common gaming houses; provided such suppression could be effected without any violation of the general principle which protects private houses from intrusion; but the inquiries of your committee have not enabled them to suggest any specific enactments for the accomplishment of this object."

The last sentence in the foregoing extract is truly parliamentary—whenever the vicious habits of the aristocracy come under review. "Very desirable—very—we wish we could; but the subject is surrounded by difficulties, and we have not as yet been able to see our way through them." In other respects, however, as we just now intimated, we regard the report under consideration as based upon sound principles. We rejoice to see those principles recognised even in so small a matter as that of the amusements of the people. The public will thus become familiarised with them, and ere long, we may hope, will insist upon their wider application.

General News.

FOREIGN.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Boston, May 16th, 1844.

My present communication will have reference mainly to political and state affairs. As you are already advised, the question of Texan annexation is probably laid on the shelf for the present. Both of the great parties are agreed in keeping it from being an element in the approaching presidential election; and though Messrs Tyler, Calhoun, and some others, may seek, by a separate movement, or in some other way, to make it so, I think they will hardly succeed.

PENNSYLVANIA REPUDIATION.

You will be glad to learn that Pennsylvania is beginning to show herself willing (able she has ever been) to pay her debts. Towards the close of the late session of her legislature, the Senate passed a resolution to adjourn *sine die*, and sent it to the House for concurrence. The result was a vote, 60 to 24, "That the legislature will not adjourn, *sine die*, until the bills providing for the payment of the interest on the state debt, and the sale of the public works, be adopted or rejected." Accordingly, on Saturday, the 27th of April, the "Main Line and Tax Bill," so termed, passed both branches of the legislature—the Senate, by a vote of 20 to 13, and the House by a vote of 56 to 32; and, on the Monday following, received the signature of the governor, and became a law. The bill provides, with the consent of the people, to be hereafter expressed at the ballot box, for the sale of the public works, known as the "Main line;" but, to meet current interest, and other liabilities, levies a tax of three mills on the dollar, at all events. The tax alone, it is believed, will be sufficient, as a present expedient, to sustain the credit of the state. The *Philadelphia North American* speaks of these proceedings thus—"We begin, at last, to think that we may speak in earnest of the credit of Pennsylvania." The correspondent of the *United States Gazette*, writing from Harrisburg, the seat of the legislature, says—"Pennsylvanians! look again your creditors in the face. The reproaches hitherto cast upon you must now cease for ever. Henceforth be it our pride and our boast—not, as it had well nigh been, our reproach—that we are citizens of this great commonwealth; not only able—for nobody doubted that—

but willing and determined to pay our just debts." The debts, I cannot but think, will, in the end, be paid. I fear Pennsylvania will find it a harder task to retrieve her character.

WHIG NOMINATIONS.

The "National Whig Ratifying Convention," for the nomination of presidential candidates, was held at Baltimore on the 2nd instant. It was a great gathering, and resulted in the nomination of Henry Clay for the presidency, and the Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, of New York, for the vice presidency. With Mr Clay's character, politically and otherwise, you are familiar. Mr Frelinghuysen is a native of New Jersey, and was, some years since, one of the United States senators from that state. He was then, and is still, a zealous colonisationist. He left political life just at the close of the struggle about the re-charter of the United States bank—up to which time he was a thorough high tariff and bank advocate. He was soon after elected as chancellor of the New York university—since which he has resided in the city of New York. He is a member of a presbyterian church, and extensively and favourably known as a religious man. For several years he has been a prominent and favourite speaker at the anniversary meetings of our various benevolent and religious societies. His selection, as the candidate for the vice presidency, was quite unexpected to the whigs themselves, as well as to the public generally. I know not that his name had been mentioned in a single public print as a suitable candidate, previous to the meeting of the convention. Davis, of Massachusetts; Fillmore, of New York; and others, were spoken of as the prominent and probable candidates. The special reason for dropping these, and selecting him, has not yet been given to the public. We only know, on the statement of the editor of the *New York Tribune*, who was present, that "the matter was substantially settled in a meeting of the southern members" of the convention. Of course, whatever other reasons they had, they also had, as they supposed, good southern reasons. And these, as we all know, must have been that, in any and all emergencies, he would be a safer man for their favourite institution—slavery, and their favourite project—a United States bank, than any of the other individuals proposed.

Besides the nomination of candidates, the convention adopted a series of resolutions expressive of the "distinctive principles and measures of the party." The principles announced are three:—1st. A tariff, sufficient for revenue, and so adjusted as equally to protect, encourage, and cherish, in all its branches, the productive industry of the country. 2nd. A national currency of uniform par value in every part of the Union, and transmissible from one part to another without discount or depreciation, and at the smallest cost—which means another United States bank; and 3rd. A fair and just distribution of the proceeds of the public lands among the several states of the Union, to be by them devoted to purposes of general and permanent utility—the political and financial operations of which it will take too long to explain. Daniel Webster has given in his adhesion to the nomination, and the whigs are evidently going into the coming canvass with great unanimity and enthusiasm.

OTHER PARTIES, AND PHILADELPHIA RIOTS.

The democratic party holds its nominating convention the last of this month. The next steamer will bring you the result. Van Buren is decidedly the prominent candidate, but there is quite a party who are determined on having some other man. Could they agree among themselves, they might possibly carry their point; as it is, I think "the little magician" will carry off the nomination. A week or two will decide.

President Tyler and Co. have been doing their utmost to organise a distinct party, but whether they will actually get into the field or not, remains to be seen. The liberty party goes onward steadily, surely, and full of courage and zeal.

Within a few months the "Native American Party," so called, has started up with unexpected strength and results. Its name designates its objects. It is essentially an anti-foreigner movement; especially anti-Irish catholic. It made its first demonstration at the ballot box in the New York city elections of last year. The effort of the catholics, in connexion with the dominant party leaders, to disturb the common school system of the city, and to exclude the Bible from the schools, as being a sectarian book, was the immediate and ostensible occasion of it. The real occasion was, that foreigners, particularly the Irish catholics, through the anxiety of the party leaders to secure their votes, were getting more than their share of the offices and the work; and along with this was mingled a large quantity of imported Orangeism. All together created a strong party; and, at the recent city election, by a general union of the whigs with them, they carried a large majority of the entire city government. Mr Harper, their candidate for mayor, received 23,863 votes; the whig candidate, 5,116; and the democratic, 19,826. The spirit has been contagious, and where it will end a good Providence only knows. It has just been the occasion, if not the cause, of sad results in Philadelphia. Mob-law has been again triumphant in the city of brotherly love—a great misnomer, by the way, for such a city. For some time it has been distinguished for the stupid inefficiency of its government, and the relentless hate and lawless violence of different classes of its citizens towards each other. Up to the present time, the poor negroes and their friends have generally been the victims of the popular fury. Again and again has the tempest been allowed to beat on them with impunity. Now the catholic Irish are the victims; and a cowardly and heartless magistracy step forward for their pro-

taction just as they did for the protection of the negroes and abolitionists—that is, they cower to the mob until its vengeance is glutted, and the storm is over, and then call out troops, and bluster, and talk right bravely. I confess I hardly know which is the greater mischief and disgrace, the Philadelphia mobs, or the Philadelphia magistracy.

MON. J. C. CALHOUN AND THE PEOPLE OF COLOUR.
You will have seen before this the correspondence between Mr Calhoun, and the British minister here, on the Texas question. In that correspondence Mr Calhoun goes into a defence of slavery, as a permanent institution, on the ground that it is a condition more favourable to the health and general comfort of the negro, than freedom; and his argument is drawn chiefly from the statistical returns of our last census of the proportion of idiots and insane among the free blacks, as compared with the slaves. By these returns, it would seem that slavery is more than tenfold more favourable to mental health than freedom—that the negroes and mulattoes of the north have one lunatic or idiot for every 144 persons, while those of the south have only one for every 1,558; and all this has been incorporated into diplomatic correspondence, and, in various other forms, gone abroad to the civilized world as undoubted truth. Now it so happens that the census contains the means of its own correction on this point; and, from an able examination of it, in the *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, for January last, it appears that the greatest blunders have been made, and that on this subject, at least, the census is not to be relied on at all. In multitudes of cases, towns in the free states have been put down as having several coloured insane persons or idiots, when from another column it appears that there is not a coloured inhabitant in them. The exposure is absolutely conclusive. Accordingly when, after this, Mr Calhoun had the hardihood to quote the census as authority, in his correspondence, a large meeting of the people of colour was held in the city of New York, at which, among other things, a petition was adopted and signed, to Congress, praying a revision and correction of the census, that the honourable secretary of state, in any future official correspondence on the subject, might have "facts, and not falsehoods, as the basis of his reasonings." How impudent for these poor free negroes to presume to meddle in such style with the diplomatic correspondence of the great South Carolina patriarch!

J. L. BROWN.

The memorials from our English friends, in respect to the case of J. L. Brown, have been received and published in several of our leading religious and other papers. I am right glad our English friends spoke on the subject as they did. They will wonder, perhaps, why the case did not create a similar sensation here. I suppose the reason was two-fold—first, before it was time to make any public demonstrations on the subject, we received the news of the commutation of his sentence to that of whipping; and, secondly, had it been otherwise, slavery being granted, such a thing is so much a matter of course, that its occurrence, horrible as we deemed it, did not amaze and shock us as it did them—a real reason, though, I admit, a poor one. P.

From the papers we glean one or two interesting facts. The *Times* correspondent considers it as certain that Mr Clay will be the next president as that he is a living man. A commercial treaty has been concluded between the government of Great Britain and the Sandwich islands. The accounts from Canada state that Sir C. Metcalfe has been operated upon for cancer in the face, and the opinion of the operator, Mr Pollock, was, that the disease was entirely eradicated. His Excellency was doing well according to the last intelligence. He bore the operation itself, and the subsequent cauterisation, with the greatest fortitude.

The packet ship *Queen of the West* arrived on Saturday, bringing papers six days later.

The treaty for the annexation of Texas was still before the senate; but that body, feeling the inconvenience of discussing it with closed doors, it had been resolved to admit the press in order to report the proceedings. General Cass, one of the candidates for the presidency, and recently ambassador at the court of the Tuilleries, had, in a published letter, declared in favour of the annexation. The President had addressed a message to the senate, in which he declares that he had sent a maritime force to the Gulf of Mexico, and provided a land force on the frontiers of Mexico, in case that republic should have declared war against the United States on account of the annexation project. This message had been violently assailed by the opponents of Mr Tyler, who is declared to have acted most illegally in doing all this in the dark, without acquainting congress with his movements, and his impeachment is loudly called for.

Bishop Hughes, of New York, had addressed a long letter to the *Morning Courier* relative to the Philadelphia riots, pointing out the political causes in which they originated, and showing that the violent sectarian animosity of which they were the result, had been encouraged by certain parties for political purposes. The writer is the catholic bishop of New York.

The provincial parliament of Canada is summoned for the 28th of June. The neighbourhood of Montreal had been the scene of two slight shocks of earthquakes.

The cotton market at New York was in a depressed state; the stock market, which had been very lethargic, was improving; and business, upon the whole, is represented as being in a sound, if not thriving condition.

Accounts have arrived from Buenos Ayres and

Montevideo to the 23rd of March. The siege and blockade still continued, but with little prospect of the city capitulating, and it was thought at Montevideo that Rivera would succeed in entering and relieving the town. The French admiral had demanded of the French residents, who were armed to the number of 3,000 in defence of the town, that they should strike their flag and disband, but they peremptorily refused to do so. Business of every kind in both places was entirely prostrated.

FRANCE.

The French papers do not contain much of interest. The principal portion of their contents refers to the position of affairs in Algeria and Morocco, upon which, however, they do not throw any new light. The most important part of the proceedings in the Chamber of Deputies, was an answer elicited from Marshal Soult, by a question put to him by M. Desjobert, relative to the dispute between France and Morocco. M. Desjobert, after reminding the Marshal that, no longer ago than on the 7th of last month, he had declared before the committee of the Chamber on the supplementary credits that he was unable to say whether the territory of Magniana belonged to France or to Morocco, asked if it was true that a French camp had been established within the limits of that territory. Marshal Soult acknowledged that the camp was established within the bounds of the territory in question; but he affirmed that, since he had made the statement alluded to before the committee, he had ascertained beyond a doubt that the territory of Magniana belonged to France and not to Morocco; for that the Turks, while in possession of Algiers, had levied tribute upon that district.

SPAIN.

Accounts from Madrid, of the 8th instant, state that the minister of finance had given the committee of the holders of the government securities assurances that nothing was further from his intention than to bring about a national bankruptcy, as had been charged against him, and that his desire was only to correct abuses in his department. The palace of Buen Retiro was in preparation for the reception of the envoy of the sublime porte. The Duke de Glucksburgh had returned from Aranjuez.

The Queen and suite arrived rather unexpectedly at Barcelona on the 1st instant. Great efforts were made by the authorities to give a showy appearance to her reception; but, except that which was paid for, it is said to have been very quiet and passive. Their Majesties held levees, and continued to visit the churches and nunneries of the city and neighbourhood.

GERMANY.

The spirit of freedom and reform shows itself every day more steadily in Germany amongst the people, while the princes as steadily resist it. In Berlin the lawyers, though refused by the government permission to attend at the great meeting of lawyers at Mayence, to consider the subject of legal reforms, still press the matter, and petition to be allowed to appear in their private capacity as learned men, regarding the meeting only in its scientific character. They have been answered, however, by the ministry, that nothing but an express permission of his majesty can do this, and that is not to be hoped.

In Saxony, the government has seen it necessary to abate somewhat the rigour of the censorship: while at the Leipzig fair, which has been most numerous attended, the guests at the hotel de Pologne, who were in such numbers that beds were obliged to be laid for them on the floors of the saloons, in the evening when they had a band, or playing during supper, called repeatedly for the *Marsellaise*, and it was not without great uproar that the playing of this revolutionary air was prevented.

In Hanover the Chamber of Representatives have staunchly resisted the demands of the King for an increased army expenditure. Thus the King finds that, in spite of his destruction of the constitution, the Chamber, called on what he considered a safe despotic principle, refuses to be managed.

In Baden, the Chamber of Representatives again is loud in its demands of reform. This body sets a brilliant example to the whole German nation. It demands freedom of the press and open trial by jury.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

ENGLISH DESIGNS UPON JAPAN.—The *Cologne Gazette* publishes the following extract of a letter, dated Trieste, May 10:—"Our last letters from China announce, amongst other news, that the English are seriously occupied with a plan for opening the ports of Japan to their commerce. Up to the present moment it was only the Dutch and Chinese who had in a limited manner authority to enter the port of Nagasaki, and the Dutch are even less favoured than the Chinese. British commerce is only carried on through the medium of Chinese. Some Englishmen have lately disguised themselves as Chinese, and traveled with the others—an attempt, which, if discovered, would have cost them their lives. The English government, on their part, have made several efforts to induce the Emperor of Japan to grant British merchants permission to carry on a direct trade. At the same time Captain Belcher had received orders to proceed with a sufficient force, and to make an hydrographic survey of the coast of the empire of Japan. It is possible that a conflict may take place between the English and the Japanese. In any case the British squadron will approach the coast. It is a vital question for England."

THE WEEK AT BOULOGNE.—During the past week our streets have been enlivened by a vast accession of visitors from England. The cold, nay, bitter

blasts of the early part of the week, with the anything but gentle sea, prevented many more coming than we otherwise should have seen. On Saturday week, upwards, we hear, of 1,000 tickets, for an excursion to Boulogne, were sold in London; of that number, only 300 arrived, and certainly the greater part of those whom we saw land on Sunday would apparently have been far better pleased to have remained in Folkestone than have been shaken on the Channel. Some of them had evidently only come for a spree, the fame of our brandy had peculiar delights for them; but when glorious, they were certainly treated with indulgence by the police. Only 21 slept in the street all night, from total forgetfulness of where they had taken up their abode; they declared, so fatigued were they by the railroad and the sea voyage, that they found no inconvenience from their hard bed, indeed they added, the stones of Boulogne must be very soft. We are glad they were found so. On the next day the Sunday batch, each armed with a bottle, melted quietly from our shores. During the rest of the week the weather became more genial, and a vast increase of travellers from England took place.—*Boulogne Gazette*.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—We have been favoured by a correspondent with copies of addresses presented by the foreign residents at Honolulu, in the island of Oahu, and from the American missionaries stationed in the same island, to Rear-admiral Thomas, upon his approaching resignation of the command in those seas. The addresses appear to have been unanimously agreed to, and express the deep regret the parties from whom they emanate feel at the loss of Admiral Thomas, both as a member of their small society, and also as having discharged the difficult duties of his high position so as to conciliate their esteem and respect.—*Times*.

SLAVERY.—The following instance of the barbarous treatment of slaves occurred lately at Cayenne. M. Clatilde the proprietor of an estate in the island, and his wife, were arraigned before the Cour Royale of the colony for whipping to death one of their young slaves, a girl only ten years old. The mother took the dead body of her child on her back, and, laying it down at the feet of the magistrate, piteously cried for justice on its murderers. Clatilde and his wife were brought to trial, but the woman was acquitted, and the only punishment inflicted on the cruel master was one year's imprisonment, and forfeiture of all property in the dead child's mother.—*Gazette*.

THE LEVANT MAIL.—Advices from Constantinople are up to the 17th. from Smyrna to the 19th, and from Athens to the 29th ult. The Porte has notified to the foreign legations at Constantinople, by a memorandum, the temporary prohibition of the exportation of corn from the Ottoman empire. At Smyrna, on the night between the 16th and 17th, a violent shock of an earthquake was felt. We learn from Athens that the nominations made by the ministry of some functionaries in the administration have met with disapprobation.

WEST INDIA MAILS.—There is a great want of rain in the islands of Cuba, Bermuda, and the Bahamas. The latter are suffering dreadfully from a very long-continued drought, and the privations the inhabitants are undergoing are great in the extreme. The *Trinidad Standard* gives the following calculation of the probable sugar crop of the British West Indies for the present year:—Jamaica, 40,000 hhds; Demerara, 40,000; Trinidad, 26,000; Barbadoes, 25,000; Antigua, 15,000; St Vincent, 10,000; St Kitt's, 6,000; Grenada, 5,000; Tobago, 5,000; St Lucia, 4,500; Dominica, 4,000; Nevis, 1,500; Montserrat, 1,000; Tortola, 1,000; Total, 184,000 hogsheads.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—By the *Vernon* we have dates of the 9th April. Though a month later, they furnish nothing very interesting from the frontier. Sir P. Maitland had arrived out and assumed the office of Lieutenant-governor. The Kafir depredations continued to annoy the farmers. Lord Stanley had introduced some reforms into the administration of justice.

CASE OF J. L. BROWN.—Mr Ogilby, the British Consul at Charleston, has addressed Baillie Urquhart in Glasgow, in behalf of Judge O'Neil, "with whom he has had the honour to be acquainted for fourteen years," and whom he pronounces to be humane, truly estimable, and religious. He encloses a statement of the facts of the case, and a letter from the Judge to Mr Fairman, of Lafayette, in which he writes as follows:—

"It astonishes me beyond measure at the interest which John L. Brown's case has excited among the abolitionists. Bad must be the case which seeks to bolster itself by excusing crime. Brown is a native of Fairfield district, in this state; he is no abolitionist. He did not seek, by aiding the woman to run away, to enable her to go to a free state, and there be free; but his object either was to prolong an adulterous intercourse with the woman, or, taking advantage of the power which he thus had, to carry her off and sell her. What difference there is between this and stealing it is difficult to perceive. He was indicted first for stealing; second for aiding her to run away and depart from her master's service, under the act 1754, which makes both felonies, without the benefit of clergy. The case was carried to our court of appeals, consisting of all the circuit judges (six in number), and they refused the prisoner's motions in arrest of judgment, and for a new trial, my brother Evans delivering the judgment. As the judge who tried him, it was my duty to pronounce the judgment of the law, which was done, and he was sentenced to be hanged on the 26th of April next. The judges all agreed, that his punishment, as he was a young man, and as the owner recovered possession of his slave, ought to be commuted, on the condition of submitting to a commutation of his punishment. Fanaticism and ignorance can blind a man so far as to make him forget everything which is right. If the abolitionists wish to understand

us, let them take the trouble to come among us, travel our state all over, observe how our people are treated, and then, if any such traveler be an honest man, and finds any ground for the many horrible stories which are told about negro slavery, we will be content to abide the condemnation."

The statement of Mr Ogilby concludes with the following information of the final result of the affair:—"The facts of the case are, of course, correctly stated by Judge O'Neill; but we learn that not long after the commutation of Brown's sentence, a petition was forwarded to the governor from the neighbourhood in which Brown was brought up, stating facts not brought before the jury, and so well authenticated, as to induce the governor to relieve him from the whipping, and grant him a full pardon."

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The weekly meeting of the League was held on Wednesday night, at Covent-garden theatre. The house was crowded in every part by a highly respectable audience. Mr George Wilson in the chair. The reception of the chairman was most enthusiastic, the audience rising and greeting his re-appearance with several rounds of applause. Among the persons present were the Earl of Radnor, Honourable Edward Pleydell Bouverie, M.P.; Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P.; Thomas Milner Gibson, Esq., M.P.; John Bright, Esq., M.P.; General Briggs, Colonel Tucker, &c. The chairman in his opening speech alluded to the late defeat of the League candidate in South Lancashire, in the following terms:—

"They wanted this election of South Lancashire, in order that they might know their strength preparatory to a general election. The number of the places from which the monopolist flag had been struck, was six out of ten; and it had been lowered in three more. No doubt, ere the next general election, they would increase their force, and return two free traders to parliament. Let the monopolist rejoice as they pleased—let them exult as they liked over Hastings and Exeter, and Salisbury and South Lancashire, the League would appeal to Nottingham, and Durham, and Kilmarnock, and Kendal, and, though last not least, to London [great cheering]; which was more than a receipt in full for all the demands which the monopolists might have upon the League." The speakers of the evening were Messrs Bouverie, Gibson, and Moore. Mr Bouverie's speech with the exception of the following slight allusion to the Kilmarnock election at the commencement, consisted of a well sustained argument in favour of a free trade in corn.

"He thanked them for the cheers with which they had greeted him, because he did not take those cheers to himself personally, but as a tribute of gratitude and sympathy to those free traders in the sister country of Scotland, who, in spite of a division, which might have let in a monopolist, had returned whom he might confidently call a good free trader to parliament; and allow him to say that, in his opinion, a constituency like that of Kilmarnock was a far better test of public opinion, and of the feeling of the country and of the independent judgment of the constituent body, than the result of such elections as those of South Lancashire, and which he himself had fought twice on the same grounds at Salisbury—because in the counties of England, and in many of the boroughs in agricultural districts, the expressed opinions of the constituency was not the real and honest opinions of the electors, but only the opinions of those who now had the majority in the House of Commons, and who would continue to have the majority there unless the people were determined to get what they wanted, and which, if they were determined, they certainly would have. He had heard nothing in Kilmarnock like he had done at Salisbury, of voters saying, "I wish you well, I agree with you in opinion, I think free trade ought to be carried, I believe that the corn laws are injurious, but I cannot vote for you." There was nothing like that heard in Kilmarnock; there were there no squires or ladies telling the electors to vote this way or that. The voters were honest, hardworking, intelligent, and independent weavers, who thought and acted for themselves, and who voted according to the best of their judgment." The chairman announced at the conclusion of the meeting, that there would be no meeting of the League next week, in consequence of the theatre being engaged for a conservative dinner.

MR O'CONNELL'S IMPRISONMENT.—On Monday evening, a public meeting of the inhabitants of Ratcliffe, Stepney, Limehouse, and parishes adjacent, was held at the Eastern Institution, Shadwell, to express the sympathy they entertained towards Mr O'Connell, and also to protest against the course of proceeding which had lately been adopted with reference to that gentleman. Long before the hour announced for the meeting, the large hall of the institution was densely crowded, and hundreds were waiting outside unable to gain admission. Not fewer than 3,000 people were within the walls of the building. Some of the sashes were taken from their windows, and were occupied by persons desirous of listening to the proceedings. Mr Moore, catholic priest, took the chair, and animated addresses were delivered by the chairman, Mr O'Callaghan, and Mr Neale. A strong protest against the recent proceedings with respect to the traversers was agreed to, and the meeting separated, after passing a vote of thanks to the chairman, who briefly acknowledged the compliment.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—At the weekly meeting of this association, held at their hall, High Holborn, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., the following resolution was unanimously resolved—"That this Association having heard of the reception given to Nicholas of Russia, by the court and aristocracy of this country, cannot but express its feelings of indignation and abhorrence at the slavish servility and debasing homage paid to him, who is the devastator of Poland—the expatriator of the Jews—the would-be enslaver

of Circassia, and the enemy of freedom and justice wherever his influence extends."

THE PITMAN'S STRIKE.—On Wednesday evening last, a public meeting was held at Saville house, Leicester square, for the purpose of taking into consideration the grievances under which the pitmen labour, and the cause of their strike, with a view to adopt the best means to assist and alleviate their distresses. The large room was crowded. The chair was taken by T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., and on his left was Mr Feargus O'Connor. A number of working men from pits in Durham, Staffordshire, and other counties, detailed, with great credit to themselves, the species of injustice they laboured under. The fines put upon the men for getting anything short of their quantity were loudly complained of, and the system of always keeping a week's payment out of the hands of the workmen for the purpose of amassing interest for the master, was explained. A string of resolutions was carried unanimously, advocating the cause of the pitmen, and declaring that parliament should take measures to remedy their causes of distress. A vote of thanks was likewise passed to Mr Duncombe for his bold advocacy of the interests of the working classes in the House of Commons.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY FOR CHILDREN, WATERLOO ROAD.—The annual festival of the Royal Infirmary for Children took place on Thursday evening, at the London tavern, Bishopsgate street, which as usual afforded an opportunity of bringing the institution prominently before the public. The object of the charity is to afford prompt and gratuitous medical aid to the children of the poor in Lambeth and in all parts of the metropolis. A suffering child is instantly admitted, without being subjected to the delay and trouble of a recommendatory letter. Patients are also visited at home, whenever the disease may be aggravated by exposure to the atmosphere. More than 165,000 poor children have been patients of the infirmary, of which number 155,650 had been restored to health, and upwards of 5,670 had received the blessings of vaccination. The average mortality of sick children had scarcely exceeded one in forty. The subscriptions amounted to £285, a good average collection, and included the name of her Majesty, £21; and the Queen Dowager 10 guineas annually; Duke of Norfolk, 2 guineas; Mr Warburton, M.P., 5 guineas; Mr Peto, 10 guineas; Thomas Grissell, Esq., 5 guineas; Duke of Buccleuch, 10 guineas, &c.

DINNER TO CHARLES KNIGHT, Esq.—A dinner was given on Wednesday evening, at the Albion, Aldersgate street, London, to Mr Charles Knight, of Ludgate street, the immediate object of it being intended by his friends to congratulate him on bringing to a successful termination his herculean undertaking, the *Penny Cyclopædia*, and also to mark their sense of his merits as an author, an editor and a publisher, as well as to testify their respect for his personal character. The chair was taken by Lord Brougham; and amongst the company assembled were Lord Wriottesley, Mr Jones, the tithe commissioner, Professor Key, Professor Long, M. D. Hill, Esq., Mr Christie, M.P., Mr Chadwick, Mr Porter, of the board of Trade, and a host of literary and scientific gentlemen, as well as influential individuals connected with the publishing world.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—On Thursday last a court was held for the despatch of business. Mr Ashurst moved that a report, which has occasioned much conversation in the City, relative to an increase of salary to Mr Bullock, for his services as judge in the Central Criminal court, be adopted. The report recommended that the salary of Mr Commissioner Bullock, as judge of the Central Criminal court, should be increased by £400 per annum. Eventually, after a long discussion, the sum of £200 a year was added to the £500 which Mr Bullock is allowed as commissioner of the Central court, making his whole receipts as commissioner, and as judge of the Sheriff's court, £1000 per annum.

WHOLESALE LONDON DEALERS.—At a court of Aldermen last week, the report of Mr Tyrrell, the remembrancer of the city of London, a paper of great research, and containing a vast body of information on the subject of the reference in relation to wholesale dealers, was brought up, and copies of it were ordered to be sent to the members of the court of Common Council, preparatory to a conference between the two courts on the question as to whether wholesale dealers were compelled to become freemen of the City or not?

Aldermen W. Hunter and Challis will be put in nomination for sheriffs for the year ensuing, at Guildhall, on Midsummer day next, to whom no opposition is expected. It is rumoured that the livery will adopt some strong resolutions respecting the conduct of Alderman Gibbs.—*Chronicle*.

THE POLISH BALL.—The Polish ball took place on Monday night, and was more numerously and fashionably attended than it has been in any previous year—a fact which may, perhaps, be accounted for by the public admiration of the spirit evinced by the ladies patronesses, who, aristocratic as all their sympathies may be considered, would not postpone the festival on account of the visit of the great aristocrat and autocrat of the north. The latter himself would very probably have despised their sycophancy, if they had, and the ball has thus had a double advantage. It has redounded, in a more than ordinary degree, to the credit of those who set it on foot, and it has been more than usually productive to those for whose relief it was instituted.—*Morning Chronicle*.

The ceremony of opening the new Royal Exchange was originally fixed to take place in July, and although no decisive promise was made, still there was little

doubt that her Majesty and her Royal Consort would honour the city of London by opening it in person. An event, however, of the deepest and most lively interest to the nation at large, and which is likely to occur about the same period, precludes the hopes of her Majesty's presence at so early a date; in consequence of which the ceremony will in all probability be deferred until the month of September.—*Daily Paper*.

Charles Gray, Esq., of Chelmsford, and No. 1, Thanet place, Temple (son of the Rev. Joseph Gray, of Chelmsford), was on Wednesday last called to the degree of barrister at law by the honourable society of Gray's Inn.

NUMEROUS ARRIVALS OF THE HOMEWARD-BOUND.—During the last two days the river has presented a most animated appearance, owing to the arrival of the large fleet of homeward-bound vessels that were for so long a period detained in the chops of the channel by a strong north-easterly wind, and which changed on Tuesday morning to almost an opposite point, viz., S. W. For the last few weeks the arrival in the Thames has been very scarce, causing the greatest distress amongst the labourers in the docks through non-employment; consequently, the great influx of shipping in the river will be the means of putting thousands to work. By Thursday's tide more than sixty coasters beat up into the Pool; and by that of yesterday afternoon, upwards of two hundred vessels of all descriptions had been hauled into the docks, or anchored at their several mooring stations in the river. There are a large number of India and Chinese arrivals; the principal of which, or those with the most valuable cargoes, are the *Vernon*, *Plantagenet*, *Owen Glendower*, and *Windsor Castle* Indiamen. Should the wind remain in the same quarter a few days longer, the increase of shipping in the Thames will be immense.

CASUAL LABOURERS OF LONDON.—At the present season no less than 600 to 800 hands are temporarily employed in Covent garden market in shelling peas.—*Globe*.

THREATENING THE EMPEROR.—At Bow street Police office, on Thursday, Count Ostrowski, a Pole, was held to bail on a charge of threatening to shoot the Emperor of Russia. On Friday, the Chevalier Benkhansen, the Russian Consul, had an interview with Mr Jardine on the subject, and on Saturday, Count Ostrowski himself sent a statement to the *Morning Chronicle* in which he says:—"On Monday last, Count Ostrowski called at his tailor's, Mr Inkson's, in Ryder street, St James's; and observing a pair of trousers of rather striking appearance lying on the counter, he happened to inquire for whom they were intended. He was informed they had been ordered by the Emperor Nicholas; at which Count Ostrowski expressed some surprise, and added, in a jocular manner, he should like to have the trying of them on. Mr Inkson, or his shopman, converted this remark into a threat against the life of their impetual customer."

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE RIVER.—On Friday afternoon, about three o'clock, as the *Trinity-house* lighter, No 29, was beating up with the tide against a strong south-west breeze, and when off the Royal hospital, Greenwich, she met with an accident by which one man lost his life, and three others narrowly escaped. The lighter was heavily laden with ballast, nearly to the water's edge, and the water very rough. At this moment the *Royal Adelaide* steamer, from Edinburgh, passed, and the great swell she made caused the lighter to ship a vast body of water; and, while in the act of tacking between the Isle of Dogs and Greenwich hospital, she went down in deep water. Three of the crew ran into the rigging, and were saved by boats which had put off to the rescue, and a fourth, it is believed, was in the cabin at the time she went down, and must have been drowned.

PROVINCIAL.

OPENING OF THE NEW BRITISH SCHOOL ROOMS, WOTTON-UNDEREDGE.—These rooms which are so constructed that they will form one spacious room, capable of containing from 1,000 to 1,300 persons, were opened on Friday evening, the 24th ult., and so great was the interest excited that many persons were unable to obtain admission. The proceedings were commenced by Mr John Lewis, the chairman, who offered up a very appropriate dedication prayer; after which hymns were sung, with excellent effect, by the children. T. S. Child, Esq., presented, through the chairman to the inhabitants of the town, the deed by which the school was conveyed to trustees, for the use of the neighbourhood, coupled only with the condition mentioned in the deed, that no creed or catechism should be taught therein; but that the bible alone, should be the medium of religious instruction. John R. Lewis, Esq., read the names of the trustees to whom the rooms are conveyed, and the children were each presented with a testament, as a remembrance of the event. Mr J. S. Eastmond, of Wickwar, in a neat address, commented on the advantages of education, calling upon the children to value the instruction given to them; and recommended them as the best place to keep the little testament, to treasure up the contents in their hearts. Messrs B. O. Bendall, of Kingswood, J. Dove, of Falsfield, Richard Knill, and D. B. Sherry, made a few appropriate remarks; after which Mr J. Watts said, that he little thought, six years ago, when the formation of a British school was talked of that he should so soon have to attend the opening of such splendid rooms as the present. The committee thought of applying to the government; they did so, and the government agreed to give £200. They did not ask for the grant, for some time, and another letter came to say—do you mean to have the money; if not,

some one else will be glad of it. They could not then have it and the matter was allowed to drop. Afterwards one of the committee said, had we not better apply for the government grant? but two of the gentlemen present, much to their honour, agreed to give £100 each, rather than the schools should be subject to government inspection. Those gentlemen were Thomas S. Child, Esq., and Samuel Long, Esq.; and in addition, both have since given largely to the funds. The evening hymn was then sung and the meeting separated. On Tuesday last the united schools met in the same rooms, when they were well filled. In the evening, Mr J. S. Eastmead delivered an address to the teachers.

THE CONGREGATIONAL EDUCATION MOVEMENT.—We are happy to see that meetings are about to be held in Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, and Huddersfield, in the course of the week after next, to carry forward the important movement of the congregational body in aid of day schools. Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P., chairman of the London committee, and Dr Andrew Reed, the honorary secretary, will attend meetings in all these towns; and we anticipate that the meetings will be at once highly interesting and of great practical utility. The first meeting will be at Bradford, on Tuesday, the 18th; the next at Leeds, on Wednesday, the 19th; and the meetings at Huddersfield and Halifax will be, we believe, on the two following days. Let the congregationalists of Yorkshire "devise liberal things, and by liberal things they shall stand."—*Leeds Mercury*.

THE LATE-HOUR SYSTEM.—The drapers of Horn-castle now close their shops at eight o'clock. Amongst the enlightened portion of the population this seems to give general satisfaction; but there are a few old-fashioned tradesmen and others, who imagine it will be the ruin of the young men, by causing them to frequent publichouses. A correspondent of the *Stamford Mercury* on this head says:—"I would remind those persons that young men are not so much in the habit of drinking as they were thirty years ago; the example set them by their employers and others is very different from what it was in those days. In the present day drunkenness is looked upon with disgust. As the practice of respectable young men getting drunk has almost become obsolete, I do not fear that they will so employ their leisure hours as to falsify all illiberal prognosticators."—The *Chelmsford Chronicle* says:—"We find by advertisements that the drapers and iron-mongers of Chelmsford have resolved to close their shops at eight o'clock in the evening in the summer, and seven in the winter, thus allowing to the persons in their employ that time for healthful exercise and mental improvement which, under the present system of later hours, is denied them. We hope this example will be followed by the grocers and others, who may well adopt it without loss to themselves or inconvenience to the public."

THE PITMEN'S STRIKE.—From the *Tyne Mercury*, we learn that the strike in the North still continues, and there is at present little probability of its termination. About 40,000 men are out of work; besides thousands of sailors employed in the coal shipping trade, are starving on the Thames. The coal-masters are now engaged in actively filling up the places of the unemployed workmen. They are protected by the rural police and the military, who are also aiding them in forcibly ejecting the colliers from their dwellings. The labourers now attempted to be introduced, are chiefly Irish; the Marquis of Londonderry importing them from his extensive estates in Ireland. The following is the number of hewers at present employed, the number of workmen who have left the union and resumed work, together with a statement of the quantity of chaldrons raised per day:—

	Hewers.	Men left union.	Chals per day.
Tyne	620	53	835
Wear	349	62	500
Tees	417	100	620
	1386	215	1955

For the first time for some weeks back, a lot of laden coal waggons passed down Cramington waggon way, on Friday last, to the place of shipment. Medomsley colliery, which ships at the Stanhope and Tyne drops, is averaging about forty chaldrons per day.

FAILURE OF THE ROMFORD BANK.—We regret to announce the failure of the bank of Messrs Johnson and Co., of Romford, which on Thursday suspended its payments. It was an establishment of many years standing, and had a considerable amount of circulation in its own notes. We do not apprehend that any great sum was issued beyond the county of Essex, but to the farmers and graziers of the district, for which Romford market forms the chief place of sale and purchase, great loss and annoyance will be the result. The market-day at Romford is Wednesday, and the day before its stoppage the bank was open, receiving and issuing as usual. Many cases of great hardship upon drovers and others, who on Wednesday last sold cattle and farm produce, for which they took the notes of the Romford Bank, have reached us. Deposits made by farmers for rent, amounts left by auctioneers and law agents in the bank merely for a short time, are among the cases of loss.—*Sun*.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—The *Leeds Mercury* says:—"One of the most delightful and beneficial changes in the weather that we ever remember to have witnessed has taken place during the present week. The wind, after having remained in the N. and E., varying but from a point for nearly two months, with scarcely any moisture, either of rain or dew, changed on Monday night, and came gradually to the S.W., where it has remained ever since. On Tuesday we had a slight fall of rain, which increased during the night, and prepared the land gradually for the copious and fertilising showers of

Wednesday and Thursday; and the consequence has been, that within the short interval we have mentioned, both the fields and the garden crops have improved amazingly in appearance, and the alarm that so generally prevailed for the year's produce has begun to subside. Still much more rain is required, and we fear the hay crops can scarcely reach an average, though we are yet from five to six weeks from the time when the grass is usually cut in this neighbourhood." From other accounts we learn that this favourable change in the weather has not been confined to the locality of Yorkshire, but has been general throughout the country. In the south it is feared that the hay crops are too ripe to be much benefited, and, consequently, the quantity will be far below an average. In some parts of the country the price of hay has materially advanced, and at Nottingham it is said to be from 20s. to 30s. a ton higher than it was a few weeks ago.

COUNTERFEIT COIN.—A great seizure of counterfeit coin, resembling doits, has been made at Birmingham, from the workshops of Mr Taberner, Weaman row, and Messrs Calley and Co., Weaman street. That this seizure will put a stop to the traffic there can be little doubt, as the penalty for every piece of coin so made is £10; and, if inflicted in the present instance, it would require little short of two million sterling to pay the fines incurred. The circumstances connected with the seizure are about to be laid before the government, with a view to determine ulterior proceedings in this extraordinary case.

SINGULAR FESTIVAL AT NETHERTON.—Last Wednesday a singular festival took place at the village of Nether-ton. 112 old men, each of whom was upwards of seventy years of age, dined together at the Bird-in-hand inn, Primrose hill. Their united ages amounted to 8491 years, giving an average of nearly 76 years. The oldest man in the company, whose age was ninety-eight, was crowned and chaired after the feast; and the whole company then walked in procession round the village, with this old man at their head, who was supported right and left by two men bearing flags with this inscription, "Young men, honour old age." The party dispersed with decency and good order at an early hour.—*Worcester Chronicle*.

INCENDIARISM IN SUFFOLK.—The practice of incendiarism still continues in this county, and we have to regret that the present week furnishes us with three further proofs of the prevalence of this dastardly and malicious offence. One of these, which occurred last Saturday at Sotterley, following close upon two other acts of incendiarism in the vicinity, indicates the advance of the crime towards districts hitherto supposed to be exempt from its influence. The apprehension of the suspected incendiary and his accomplices in this case may, perhaps, lead to the discovery of some motive; and a thorough examination into the affair may, we hope, suggest the remedy or means of prevention most applicable to the case. Surely it is time for some steps to be taken by the magistracy, the owners, and the occupiers of land, to arrest its progress. Hitherto the hundred of Blything has been the only district in which a meeting has been held, which, whatever benefit the locality may derive from its community of purpose, is nevertheless nearly useless so far as other parts of the county are concerned. But it is not improbable that, by combined exertion, the most beneficial ends might be attained. Were local committees formed throughout the county, who would correspond with each other, and freely communicate the result of inquiries as to the state of the labouring population, and the peculiar circumstances which tend to the amelioration, or, on the contrary, aggravate the hardships of their condition, there seems good reason to believe that the means of arresting the progress of incendiarism, and of restoring feelings of contentedness and good-will, where these have been unhappily alienated, might be attained.—*Ipswich Journal*.

HORRIBLE MURDER.—The inhabitants of Weston-Super-Mare, were thrown into a state of excitement on Wednesday last, by the report of a murder having been committed at the Devonshire Inn, in High street. The unfortunate victim, whose name is Mary Hyatt, has been living for some years past as the wife of Joel Fisher, her murderer. Fisher is the landlord of the house, and is of a reserved disposition, and it would seem that quarrels have not been unusual between the parties. On the evening previous to the commission of the crime, Fisher and deceased had had a quarrel, arising from the circumstance of some lodger in the house having left. It appears that the unfortunate woman was not unfrequently in the habit of aggravating Fisher, and she treated this affair with levity, and sponged from a slate several accounts which were owing by customers to Fisher, and he then declared that he would do for her. He continued threatening her up to the time of her going to bed, and she therefore slept with the servant girl. After she had retired to bed, Fisher was still heard about the house, uttering threats, and from the appearance of his bed it is evident that he had not undressed himself during the night. Soon after five o'clock in the morning, the servant girl was alarmed by his bursting open the door of the bed-room where herself and mistress were in one bed, and two of Fisher's children in another. Fisher then stepped on the bed in which the women lay, and with a square-edged iron bar inflicted a severe blow on the head of the deceased, literally smashing her skull in; and after that he left the room, and almost instantly returned, bringing in his hand a carving-knife, with which he cut her throat in such a manner as nearly to sever the head from the body; and, having satisfied himself of her death, he went to the bed-room of a young man lodging in the house, and informed him of what he had done. The young man ran and

called up a surgeon, and having also got the assistance of a policeman, they proceeded to the house, when Fisher himself admitted them, and actually showed them up stairs and into the room. He appeared quite cool in the presence of the police, and readily accompanied them to the station-house. An inquest was held on the body, and a verdict of "Wilful murder" returned against Fisher, who was forthwith committed to Shepton Mallet gaol to take his trial at the next assizes.

IRELAND.

POPULAR DEMONSTRATIONS.—Meetings have been held all through the country.—At Tralee, at Killybeg, and at Caherciveen, to express their condolence with Mr O'Connell, and indignation against his imprisoners. At Listowel all the shop windows were closed on receiving the intelligence. At Callan where there were 5,000 persons present, the temperance band was in attendance, and the instruments muffled with crape. In the diocese of Cashel a prayer was offered in each of the chapels, by the Archbishop's direction, "for the liberator's safe release from captivity;" and at Nenagh, a building could scarcely be found large enough to accommodate the immense numbers who thronged to the meeting; their subscriptions to the repeal fund will exceed £100. At Roscrea a very large meeting assembled, and resolutions were adopted to persist in the agitation for repeal, and to obey the advice of Mr O'Connell in every particular. At Templemore, Thurles, and Borrisoleigh the meetings have been no less enthusiastic; and Clonmel will send £200 to the fund. In the city of Dublin there have been meetings of St Paul's ward, St James's ward, and Linen Hall ward.—A special meeting of the town council was held. The chair was taken by the Lord Mayor—Councillor Kirwan moved that the address which he held in his hand be presented to her Majesty. In that address the corporation did not ask for mercy—all they asked was that her Majesty would vindicate the constitution, which had been violated in the person of Alderman O'Connell. Alderman Butt entered his solemn protest against the address—but if a separate one were prepared, embracing an expression of sympathy to Mr O'Connell, he would not oppose its adoption. The house divided, and there appeared, for the motion, 40; against it, 6; majority, 34. A deputation of the whole corporation was appointed to present the address. A very numerous and highly important meeting of the reformers of Belfast was held in the theatre of that town, on Friday, "to adopt resolutions, and an address to Mr O'Connell, with reference to the state trials." Amongst the speakers were R. J. Tennent, Esq., J.P., D.L.; J. T. Tennent, J.P., and Dr Denvir (Roman catholic bishop); James Grimshaw, Esq., presided.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—On Tuesday, the Association again met, but the attendance was very scanty. The secretary having read the minutes of the previous day, Mr S. O'Brien, M.P., directed him to alter the date to the first week of "the captivity," and, for the future, to date all their proceedings from that epoch. Mr W. S. O'Brien, after addressing the meeting at some length, concluded by making a motion, which was seconded by Dr Nagle, to the effect, that the chair which had been occupied by Mr O'Connell at their former meetings should remain vacant during his absence from them. The resolution having been adopted, the meeting was adjourned to "Monday, in the second week of the captivity."

Every day since the sentence, considerable numbers of respectable citizens, including many liberals who are not repealers, have left their names at the Richmond Bridewell.

Some surprise has been caused by the non-appearance of any address from Mr O'Connell since his incarceration; but it is said that the prison regulations, as interpreted by the committee of superintendence, prohibit the issuing of any political document.

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE MAYOR OF LIMERICK.—Alderman Pierce Shannon, mayor of Limerick, expired very suddenly on Thursday last, just as he was entering the Exchange in that city, for the purpose of presiding at a public meeting convened to address Mr O'Connell.

REPRESENTATION OF ENNISKILLEN.—The Hon. Henry Cole, younger brother of the late member, will be returned for this borough without opposition.

SCOTLAND.

MONUMENT TO THE POLITICAL MARTYRS OF 1793—4.—After so much delay, we are happy to see that the monument is at last in course of erection. The foundation, we observe, is at present occupying attention, and stones are laid down. The situation of the monument is on the Calton hill, a little way east from Burns's monument, and on the same side of the London road. In consequence of a place on the Calton hill having been obtained, the London committee have contributed £300 more to the Edinburgh testimonial. The London committee have acted rightly; and, if the whole funds raised in London had been similarly allotted, and the idea of a memorial in the metropolis been abandoned, it would perhaps have been better still. The Calton hill of Edinburgh is decidedly the most appropriate place for a monument to the martyrs of 1793. Edinburgh was the scene of their persecution—at Edinburgh should be the monument to their memory.—*Scotman*.

THE IRON TRADE.—Pig iron is on the advance. The masters seem determined not to give any advance to the "turn-outs;" the men seem resolutely bent on having their own terms—if not, a strike will immediately ensue. 70s. to 80s. per ton are the prices quoted.

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

The price of gas is to be reduced from the 30th inst. to 7s. per 1,000 cubic feet by the leading gas companies in London.—*Standard*.

A stranger called upon a London lodging-house keeper, last week—took apartments—and said he would leave half-a-crown as a deposit. So saying, he threw down a crown-piece, and received the change. As he was retiring, he observed, "I suppose you will furnish them nicely?" The landlord pointed to the ticket, signifying that the rooms were "unfurnished." "O!" said the man, (throwing down half-a-crown, and resuming his crown-piece), "unfurnished apartments won't do for me." The landlord soon found that the rogue had "done for him," for he had left behind him a bad half-crown.

Dr Henry, an army surgeon, reprobates "the pernicious abuse of immoderate smoking, now so general: morning, noon, and night, eternal smoking." "Already," says he, "are the national stamina enervating by this emasculating habit; and in another generation, probably, the manly, moral, and physical attributes of the higher classes of Englishmen, will be smoked and shrivelled into the dimensions of the Spanish and Portuguese."

A QUEER LEG!—In Friargate, Preston, the other day, a gentleman was trotting along on his nag, when one of his legs dropped off! A cart came up at the time, and the wheel ran over the leg! The ostler at the "Three Legs" picked up the leg uninjured, and restored it to the rider with one leg, who rode off with his loose leg under his arm, amidst "roars of laughter," in which he very cheerfully joined.

Echo is represented as a female, because she will have the last word. A lady, on hearing this explanation, said—"Surely the lords of the creation ought not to have both the first word and the last."

Sir Henry Hallford's recipe for nervous people.—34 oz. camphor julip, 34 oz. peppermint water, 3 drachms spirit ammonia, 3 do. of syrup of saffron, 1 do. tincture of camphor—well mixed. Three table spoonfuls to be taken when required.

A TIE TO TORTISM.—Sir Robert Peel stated, in the House of Commons, the other evening, that there are no fewer than 22,000 applications for government situations. Here are 22,000 individuals, and, probably, most of their relations, bound to Tortism by the most selfish considerations.

LEAP YEAR AND THE LADIES.—The report of the Registrar General bears witness, clear and undeniable, that the ladies avail themselves of the privilege which belongs to them in leap year. In all and every of the eight several divisions into which England and Wales are divided for registration purposes, there were more marriages in 1840 than in either 1839 or 1841! In the north 1,444 of every 100,000 ladies living in 1839, entered into the holy state of matrimony; and in 1841, the proportion was 1,485; while in 1840 (leap year), 1,526 of every 100,000 ladies succeeded in leading as many men into the married state! The fair sex, of course, will be no less busy in the present year.

When the reduction in the duty on currants is urged on the ground of the advantage it will give to the great mass of consumers, while so high a duty is maintained on the flour with which they must be used, we are forcibly reminded of the beggar who, on entering a farm house, craved for a little salt, and then modestly begged for an egg to eat with it.—*Economist*.

RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENTS.—The state church is supported for the sake of religion; and plates for horses are paid for by the state to improve the breed of horses. The sum of £1674 16s. 2d. was included in the estimates for the year as required for sixteen Queen's plates to be run for in Ireland. Dr Cooke, of Belfast, a dissenter, takes the *Regium Donum* of £100 a year, and sees, out of the same fund, £100 a year paid as a prize to a horse-runner in his own neighbourhood! The state regards the eloquent D. D. and the jockey as equal quantities.—*Manchester Times*.

SCENE AT THE ORMSKIRK POLLING BOOTH.—Returning officer: "Well, who do you vote for, my man?" Voter: "I votes for—for—I votes for Maister Blue." Returning officer: "What do you mean? Who do you vote for?" Voter: "Why, I votes for—(after a long pause)—I votes for this" (showing an Entwisle ribbon). Returning officer: "That won't do." Voter goes down to consult his friends, then comes up primed and loaded. Returning officer: "Well, who do you vote for?" Voter: "Why, I votes for Mr Twizzle."—*Liverpool Times*.

ART OF PROCURING SLEEP AT WILL.—A poetical hatter has contributed the following couplet to *Puck* (a rival to *Punch*):—

Whene'er to slumber you incline,
Take a "SHORT NAP" at 4 and 9!

LONDON DURING MAY.—It is estimated that not fewer than 150,000 strangers visit London during this month, including large numbers from abroad, especially America, who come to be present at the anniversary meetings.

"How seldom it happens," says one friend to another, "that we find editors who are bred to the business." "Very," replied the other, "and have you not remarked how seldom the business is bread to the editors?"

What colour is the grass when covered with snow? Invisible green.

In Vienna, every man, from the Prince to the shoemaker, wears a ring! The noble has his arms engraven on it; the merchant, his initials; the mechanic, the device of his trade.

Literature.

Walks about the City and Environs of Jerusalem.
By W. H. BARTLETT. London: George Virtue. 1844.

JERUSALEM! The name of no city in the world awakens similar emotions! Nineveh, Babylon, Memphis, Athens, Rome, Heliopolis, Palmyra, Alexandria, Milan, Constantinople, Venice, Genoa, Paris, London, though all in turn "the cynosures of neighbouring eyes," have possessed only a secondary interest. Great in their day, many of them are now no more, and those living and flourishing are either of modern date, or afford the strong indications that their sun has set for ever. It is the peculiarity of Jerusalem that it is not only great in the past, but that, unlike its neighbours or rivals, it is probably destined, whatever may be its present history, to be still greater in the future. Its name is allied to all that is sublime, supernatural, omnipotent, immortal. There the great drama of the sacred history was transacted; there the visible glories of the reign of God shone forth; the sacred poet kindled there with his celestial fire, and the rapt prophet drew from its localities the fuel of his burning predictions. If we regard its glories, Jerusalem stands on a pinnacle reached by no other city; if its trials, the successive desolations experienced by Jerusalem have been engraven in lines deep beyond all parallel; if the patriotism which it awakens, no other city is so associated with every fond desire and every precious hope, of a scattered nation; if its future history, the probability that some of the most striking predictions of the future are yet to be accomplished within the circuit of Jerusalem; all this gives to "the city of the great King" a character—an inspiration—making it the very Areopolis of all the earth. And utterly condemning as we do the traditional absurdities which are not only implicitly believed abroad, but leave their slimy traces on our calendar at home, we can conceive of no right-minded and believing man whose pulse is not quickened, and whose awe would not be deepened, by the sight of the olive trees beneath which our Lord struggled till his sweat became blood; or by the locality of the mountain whence he certainly beheld the guilty glories of the devoted city, or from the summit of which he as certainly ascended up into heaven.

This delightful volume is an attempt to make us familiar with the topography of this renowned city, and if our interest in the work be any test of its value, we can truly asseverate that from the colophon we scarcely laid down the volume till we read its "finis." We will attempt to give our readers our impression of what has gratified our organ of locality in an unusual degree, and communicated to us much new information.

In the preface the author says:—

"This little work is the result of a visit to Jerusalem in the summer of 1842. Before that period the author was quite unable to form any distinct idea of its appearance from then existing works: not so much from the absence of graphic descriptions, for such abound, as from the desultory style of the writers and the absence of a connected plan, together with the want of correct and well-chosen views."

"On this last point he may perhaps be deemed to arrogate too much; yet his conviction is honest, that no views of Jerusalem at all valuable for the purpose of topographical or historical illustration have yet appeared, though so many have been published which, as works of art, are very beautiful. This led him to form the idea of attempting to give a clear, connected, and accurate view of the city by gradually tracing its progress from the earliest period of authentic history, restoring its past appearance by a careful study of existing data, and exhibiting its present condition in a series of views chosen with express reference to historical illustration, and in which the local character should be the only object, and where at every step the past and present should be compared."

"If the student who reads the history of Jerusalem in the scriptures, or in Josephus, or the pages of later historians, can find in this little work any assistance in bringing before him a picture of what they describe, the principal object of the writer is gained."—pp. i. ii.

We, too, have often felt our need of a work like this—a work which might illustrate the localities of our Bible, both canonical and apocryphal—a work which might render Josephus more intelligible to us than he often is—a work which might throw light on the localities of those pious frauds lauded by Roman Catholics, and not disclaimed by Anglo-Catholics—a work which might give the Keble to our historical thoughts, if not to our sacred devotions; and a work which might render modern researches in Jerusalem, such as Dr Robinson's, more instructive than it can otherwise be. Such a volume is here furnished. The student will value it for its real information; the artist for its elucidation of drawings and engravings; its topographical details renders it important to a rising family, while its elegance adapts it to the table of the drawing room.

The work is written with much freshness, spirit, and good taste; going just enough into details to keep up the sense of reality, yet never wearying us with antiquarian details, generally more agreeable in their results than their processes. The author is as pictorial in his letter-press as in his illustrations; whilst sacred and profane history, poetry,

criticism, and research, lend their attraction at intervals to his pages. The engravings are, for their purpose, admirable. It was not the object to furnish finished works of art so much as illustrative engravings.

The plan of the volume is the following:—Apreface describes the author's journey from Beyroot to Jerusalem. It is well told, and the *coup d'œil* taken of the modern city very effective.

A chapter is devoted to "Ancient Jerusalem." A vignette gives the site and locality of the city of Jebus; and the letter-press describes the probable changes which the city underwent in the times of David and in those of Solomon, when its extent was much greater than now. Its history is pursued through the times of Nebuchadnezzar, Ezra, Nehemiah, the Maccabees, Herod the Great, Josephus; and a considerable space is devoted to tracing the courses of the ancient walls, and detailing the siege of the city by Titus. That tragical history is admirably related and illustrated.

Three walks are then supposed to be taken about and around this ancient city.

The first commences with the Latin convent at the gate of Jaffa—descends the valley of Hinnom by the pools of Gihon—the scene of the ancient worship of the "horrid king" Moloch, passes by the traditional "Aceldama," reaches the spot supposed to have been occupied by the gardens of Solomon, returning to the city by the pool of Siloam, the (alleged) sepulchre of David, and through the gate of Sion. It then describes the Armenian convent, the Jewish quarter of the city (characterised by squalor and wretchedness), the spot on which stood the palace of Herod, and which has seen the commencement of an English episcopal church, though the jealousy of the Turk has forbidden its completion. Many of these interesting points are illustrated by an engraving on steel or wood, and a map gives a distinct notion of the relative localities.

The second walk commences with the Latin convent, traverses the *via dolorosa*, passes under the *Ecce Homo* arch, and goes out of the city by St Stephen's gate. Before leaving the city a view is given from the walls above it, both by pencil and pen. The following is the description:—

"If there be any holy ground on earth it is here. Nor is there any thing to disturb the full impression of identity which at once passes into the mind with the scene of so many wonderful and touching events. We are neither confused with learned theories, nor repelled by the palpable inventions of pious fraud. Here we are alone with nature, and in a silence unbroken but by the wind sweeping over the ancient walls, and tombs, and hoary olive groves, may give up our minds to the full impression of the spot."

"Under the ancient Saracenic wall extends a narrow level ridge, occupied by the Mohamedan cemetery. The ruinous tomb of a Santon rises above its humbler graves where a few Turkish women are seated as is their custom. Sunk beneath this ridge is the valley of the brook Kidron, above it rises the Mount of Olives."

"The general appearance of this celebrated hill is, of course, the same as in the times of Jewish prosperity. The cultivation of the valley below and of the hill itself, must have been more careful, as the groves of olives were more dense and flourishing, covering perhaps its whole surface. Its gardens were enclosed, and must have abounded in all the fruits and flowers of Palestine."

"Among these shades it was the custom of Jesus to retire with his disciples after teaching daily in the temple. Across the summit of the hill (as seen in the view), is the pathway by which he must so often have crossed to visit the family of Lazarus at Bethany."

"On the brow of the hill he must have sate when he wept over the fate of the devoted city, and the shades at his foot witnessed the agony of the garden and the betrayal by Judas."—p. 104, 105.

The traveler now descends by the traditional, and probably real, garden of Gethsemane, and climbs the Mount of Olives, where the most enchanting view of the city bursts upon the view from the point whence its Saviour wept over its coming doom. The author stays here to make us familiar with the points both of the modern and ancient city. We are then taken "as far as to Bethany." In returning, we pass the village of Siloam, the tombs of the Jews—the fountain called after the virgin—and walk up the valley of Jehosaphat, to the side of the city where, its defences being weakest, it has been always attacked. Our Cicerone then relates to us (and he is a good story-teller), the siege undertaken by Godfrey of Bouillon. Then we are led to "the tombs of the kings," and return into the city by the Damascus gate.

The third walk makes us familiar with the interior of Jerusalem. Large mention is made of the mosque of Omar, certainly standing on the platform, and probably on the site of the ancient temple. Many illustrations are devoted to this subject. We are shown the remnants of the bridge once erected across the Tyropheon, and connecting the temple with Mount Zion. We see the small spot contiguous to the boundary of the temple where the Jews mourn over the desolations of their once glorious city. From the roof of the governor's house, now standing in the place of Fort Victoria, we take a view of the mosque of Omar, and have many details relative to the ancient temple, and its elegant but profane successor. A letter from Mr Catherwood, who, in taking sketches for Burford's panorama of Jerusalem, managed to gain access to this sacred ground, forbidden except to Maho-

medana, furnishes much information. A description of the church of the holy sepulchre, and of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, concludes the volume.

Mr Bartlett deserves, and we beg him to accept, our warm thanks for his fascinating and instructive volume. His work is a happy hit; and will become, we are persuaded, very popular.

Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology. Edited by WILLIAM SMITH, Ph.D. London: Taylor and Walton. 1843, 1844. Parts I. to V.

If any explanation of this work be needed further than its title conveys, the following extract from the prospectus will furnish it:—

"It is almost superfluous to remark that something better is required than we yet possess in the English language for illustrating the biography, mythology, and literature of the Greek and Roman writers, and for enabling a diligent student to read them in the most profitable manner. The writings of modern German philologists, as Niebuhr, Savigny, Böckh, K. O. Müller, Wacksmuth, Droysen, Duimann, Brandis, Ritter, Welcker, Westermann, Lobeck, and others, as well as the works of some of our own scholars, as Thirlwall, Arnold, and Clinton, have cleared up many of the difficulties connected with these subjects, and enabled us to attain to more correct knowledge and more comprehensive views than were formerly possessed. The articles in this dictionary will be founded, on a careful examination of the original sources, with such aids as may be derived from the best modern authorities; and such of the articles as are susceptible of it will be illustrated with woodcuts from ancient coins.

"The biographical articles in this work will include the names of all persons of any importance which occur in the Greek and Roman writers, from the earliest times down to the extinction of the Western empire, in the year 476 of our era, and to the extinction of the Eastern empire, by the capture of Constantinople by the Turks in the year 1453."

The list of contributors is large and imposing, and affords every guarantee for the successful progress of the work, which, when completed, will form one thick octavo volume. Those who have gone through (alas! for the youth who have been committed to it) the indecent tales of Lemprière, will hail a dictionary which, avoiding the gross details of mythology, leaves nothing important unwritten, especially nothing which illustrates ancient classical learning. Far removed from the common-place compilations of ordinary literature, most of the articles in this work are erudite, able, and original. The productions of each ancient writer are enumerated, with a list of the best editions.

We regret that our old classical acquaintances have in this volume lost the names most familiar to our lips, though they have but regained their original appellatives. This may sometimes prove as perplexing as to inquire for the colliers or combers by their patronymic or baptismal name, that being altogether forgotten in some assumed cognomen. It may be justice; but it is sometimes inconvenient justice. Even to those who are not liable to be misled, there is a pleasant association with such names as Jupiter, Mars, Mercury, and Ulysses, which is disturbed by reading of Teus, Area, Hermes, Odysseus, and the rest. The arrangement, too, is not always consistent. Aeneas is described, for instance (p. 30), as the son of Anchises and Aphrodite, yet we find no account of the lady goddess occurring in p. 224, under that title.

It is to be understood, however, and this circumstance tends to prove it, that this work is not a book for beginners. Its aim is to be a first-rate production, especially on subjects of classical literature. This is a high aim; but it is one which we think it has reached. Of course, in so large a list of subjects, articles will be various in their merit. But many of them are of sterling and superior excellence.

If there be anything which substantially diminishes the value of the work, it is that, in these days of patristic divinity, the biographies of the Fathers have not been regarded as fully equal in importance to those of the classics. The prospectus prepared us for this, and avowed it as part of the plan; yet we see with disappointment an able account of Augustinus (from the pen of the late J. M. Mackenzie, who was engaged for this work a few moments before death), curtailed into three pages, while the biography of Augustus extends to seven, and Julius Cæsar to sixteen. It is not, however, that we complain of the latter articles; both being, though by different writers, admirable.

It is difficult to find an extract which will exemplify the nature of the work before us. We make a random extract:—

"ÆOLUS.—In the mythical history of Greece there are three personages of this name, who are spoken of by ancient writers as connected with one another; but this connexion is so confused, that it is impossible to gain a clear view of them (Müller, *Orchom.* p. 186, &c.). We shall follow Diodorus, who distinguishes between the three, although in other passages he confounds them.

"1. A son of Hellen and the nymph Orseis, and a brother of Dorus and Xuthus. He is described as the ruler of Thessaly, and regarded as the founder of the Æolic branch of the Greek nation.

"2. Diodorus (iv., 67) says that the second Æolus was the great grandson of the first Æolus, being the son of Hippotes and Menalippe, and the grandson of Mimas the son of Æolus.

"3. According to some accounts, a son of Hippotes, or, according to others, of Poseidon and Arne, the daughter of the second Æolus.

"In these accounts Æolus, the father of the Æolian race, is placed in relationship with Æolus the ruler and god of the winds. The groundwork on which this connexion has been formed by later poets and mythographers, is found in Homer (Od. x. 2). In Homer, however, Æolus, the son of Hippotes, is neither the god nor the father of the winds, but merely the happy ruler of the Æolian island, whom Cronion had made the *tamias* of the winds, which he might excite according to his pleasure (Od. x. 21, &c.). This statement of Homer, and the etymology of the name of Æolus from *æello* were the cause that in later times Æolus was regarded as the god and king of the winds, which he kept enclosed in a mountain. It was to him, therefore, that Juno applies when she wishes to destroy the fleet of the Trojans (Virg. *Æn.* i., 78). The Æolian island of Homer was, in the time of Pausanias, believed to be Lipara (Paus. x., 11, § 3), and this, Shouglye, was accordingly regarded, in later times, as the place in which the god of the winds dwelled (Virg. *Æn.* viii. 416; i. 52; Strab. vi., p. 276). Other accounts place the residence of Æolus in Thrace (Apollon., Rhod. i. 954; iv. 765; Callim., Hymn. in Ded. 26), or in the neighbourhood of Rhegium in Italy (Tzet. ad Lycophr. 732; comp. Diod. v. 8). The following passages of later poets also show how universally Æolus had come to be regarded as a god:—Ov. Met. i. 264; xi. 748; xiv. 223; Val. Flacc. i. 575; Quint. Smyrn. xiv. 475. Whether he was represented by the ancients in works of art is not certain, but we now possess no representation of him."

The pages of this volume are very closely and beautifully printed. Each part thus contains much more than at first sight could be imagined. We shall watch its further progress with much interest.

An Appeal to British Christians and the Public generally, on Behalf of the Queen of Tahiti. With a Statement of Facts, by S. J. WILLIAMS. London: Snow.

THERE are some things in life, at once so painful and so hopeless, that we try not to think of them. Of this kind, we confess, is the recent seizure of Tahiti—"the first born, the beginning of strength" of the London Missionary Society. No event of modern times has so aroused our sympathy, our surprise, our condolence; and were it not that we have a strong conviction that a territory so obtained will not secure the ends for which it has been sought, and that the God of nations will not let even Tahiti "fall to the ground without his notice;" we should be sad indeed. There is an affecting eloquence in the mere name of Williams upon this subject. And the pamphlet is admirable and spirit-stirring. It adds several new facts to those before known, increasing, if that be possible, the dark hues which characterise the conduct of the French government. We feel convinced, that if the religious portion of the people of England can be stirred by anything, they will by this. Would that the "appeal" might avail!

LIST OF BOOKS RECEIVED.

1. *Old England*, No. 6.
2. *The Pictorial Sunday Book*, part 6.
3. *Three Letters on Religious Bequests*.
4. *Dyer's Lecture on Digestion*.
5. *Pothills Works—Wards Standard Divinity*.
6. *Payne's Universum*, No's. 5 and 6.
7. *Illustrated Oxford Bible*, parts 1 to 4.
8. *The Naval Forces of England and France*.

Religious Intelligence.

BIRMINGHAM.—Mr C. B. Holder, of Spring Hill college, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the independent church, Ellesmere, Shropshire, to become their pastor, and will commence his stated ministrations on the last Sabbath in June.

WILTSHIRE.—On Tuesday and Wednesday, May 28 and 29, the Southern Association of Baptist Churches held their annual meeting at Downton, Wilts, when letters from the several churches, giving a statistical account of their condition and prospects, were read. Sermons were preached by the brethren Tilly, of Foston; Hulgim, of Poole; and New, of Salisbury. The Association passed a unanimous resolution in favour of the late Antislavery church Conference, and also adopted a petition to the House of Commons against the Dissenters' Chapels bill.

BEVERLEY.—On Wednesday, the 29th May, three meetings were held at Lair Gate independent chapel, in connexion with the resignation of the pastoral charge of Mr J. C. Brown, about to proceed to South Africa, and the ordination of Mr W. Young, B.A., as his successor. The morning service was conducted as follows:—Suitable hymns were given out by Messrs Sibree, Hall, and White; Mr Hicks read the scriptures, and Mr Morley, sen., prayed. The introductory discourse was delivered by Mr Stratten, after which, Mr Brown formally resigned his charge, and stated the circumstances which led to the choice of his successor. The usual questions to the young minister were presented by Mr Mather; and Mr Young, of Albion chapel, London, offered up the ordination prayer. The charge was delivered by Dr Young, of Whitby, and the closing prayer offered by Mr Morley, jun., of Hull. In the afternoon a meeting was held for the purpose of presenting a piece of plate to Mr Brown, as a token of affectionate regard, from the church and congregation. Suitable addresses were delivered on the occasion, by Messrs Morley, Allen, Flockery, Brown, and Young. In the evening, the address to the church and congregation was delivered by Mr Young, of London.

BOXMOOR, HERTS.—Mr Benjamin P. Pratten, of the Baptist college, Bristol, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church and congregation at Boxmoor, to the pastoral office lately held by Mr F. W. Gotch, M.A., philosophical tutor of Stepney college.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST CHURCHES.—The annual meetings of the associated baptist churches, in Lancashire and Cheshire, were held in Zion chapel, Greek street, Stockport, on Wednesday and Thursday, May 29th and 30th, 1844. The ministers and messengers from the various churches were present. Owing to the favourable state of the weather, and other causes, the attendance was numerous and highly respectable, and could not but tend to raise the baptists in the esteem and respect of the observers and the inhabitants generally. Many parties were present from a distance. On Wednesday morning, the committee of the county mission met at the British and Infant schools; a prayer meeting also was held at the same time in Zion chapel, conducted by Mr W. E. Jackson, of Heywood; Mr R. Ward, of Cloughfold; assisted by other ministers. At two o'clock, the letters from the various churches were read; Mr J. Lister, A.M., acting as the moderator. At six o'clock, the annual association letter to the churches was read by Mr C. Thompson, of Manchester, which evinced much talent, and is highly creditable to the writer. At a quarter past seven, Mr D. Griffiths, theological tutor of the Baptist academy, Accrington, preached in the chapel. On Thursday morning, a delightful and refreshing prayer meeting was held in the Baptist chapel, conducted by Mr T. Dawson, of Bacup, and other ministers. At nine o'clock, the ministers and messengers met for business connected with the association in the British and Infant schools; at the termination of which, Mr J. Acworth, A.M., of Horton college, Bradford, Yorkshire, delivered a most eloquent address, and which he has been requested to publish. At the close of the service, a meeting in aid of the county mission was held, and was efficiently addressed by various ministers and laymen, and a collection was made in aid of its funds. At half-past three, the ministers and messengers again met for business, after which they retired to the Stockport Sunday school, where the various refreshments were provided—viz., breakfast, tea, dinner, and supper, at the charge of sixpence each. Amongst the gentlemen present were H. Kellall, Esq., of Rochdale; G. Foster, Esq., Saddington; J. Coward, Esq., Liverpool; J. Bury, Esq., Accrington; with numerous other influential gentlemen. After tea the meeting was severally addressed by Messrs D. Griffith, T. Dawson, W. Giles, of Ashton under-line; E. Edwards, of Preston; J. P. Saffery, of Leeds; and Mr C. Baker. The meeting then adjourned to Zion chapel, when Mr J. P. Saffery delivered a most impressive sermon, and Mr W. F. Burchell, of Rochdale, pleaded on behalf of the funds of the county mission, which terminated these pleasing and attractive services. The following are the statistics of the association for the present year. In thirty-seven churches there has been an increase, by baptism, of 545 members—by letter, 120; by restoration, 36: total increase, 701. Decrease, 242: clear increase, 469.

PLAISTOW.—Mr John Curwen was publicly recognised as pastor of the church assembling in North Street chapel, Plaistow, on Wednesday, May 22nd. Mr J. Corney, of Barking, commenced by prayer and reading the scriptures. An introductory discourse was delivered by Mr R. Ferguson, of Stratford. The usual questions were asked by Mr Robert Ainslie. Mr Ainslie then offered prayer, and Mr Spedding Curwen, of Reading, gave the charge to his son. Mr D. Thomas, of Stockwell, concluded the service in the morning; and Mr Joseph Angus preached to the people in the evening. Several other ministers were present, and assisted on the occasion. Mr T. Binney, of the Weigh-house, and Mr George Smith, of Poplar, had engaged to take part in the services, but were prevented by indisposition.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—On Tuesday, May 28, being the day on which the anniversary of the independent church was held, two sermons were preached to attentive congregations; one by Mr J. Burnet, of Camberwell—the other by Mr J. Hunt, of Brixton. Mr Burnet also announced the pleasing intelligence that the building committee had determined on erecting a chapel, according to the plan drawn by Mr A. Truman, of London, on the site of the present dilapidated and unattractive place of worship. Long have the little band of congregationalists, resident in Leatherhead, been struggling with great difficulties, in order to retain the gospel among them, and to erect a structure in which it is hoped the glory and grace of the Redeemer will be manifested to many precious souls. The estimated cost of the proposed structure is about £600. Of this about £400 has been raised by the friends of the Redeemer in and about Leatherhead, and by exertions their pastor has made, in journeying to collect donations for some time past; which course will be pursued until the chapel shall be free from any incumbrance.

NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL.—The services connected with the opening of the general baptist new chapel, Babbington colliery, near Nottingham, were held on Monday, May 27, Wednesday, May 29, and Sunday, June 2. Mr Hinton preached on Monday afternoon and evening. Mr James Edwards preached on Wednesday morning and afternoon. Addresses were delivered in the evening by Messrs S. Ward, J. Davies, and J. Phillips. The services of Sunday were conducted by two local preachers, to whom, in conjunction with other laborious brethren, the congregation are indebted for their regular and useful ministrations. The chapel has been erected by Mr Thomas North, upon his estate, for the benefit of the neighbouring population. The interior having to be furnished by the congregation, the amount of collections, namely £106 14s., will be applied towards the expenses thus incurred. It is a beautiful and substantial building, situated in a delightful spot.

THE NEW MISSIONARY SHIP, "JOHN WILLIAMS."
A valedictory service was held on Monday evening, the 3rd inst., at Finsbury Chapel, on occasion of the departure of the John Williams for the South Sea Islands. The hour appointed for the commencement of the service was six o'clock, but long previous to that time the lower part of the spacious edifice was densely crowded, and by the time the services commenced, every seat in the chapel, together with the aisles, was occupied. The services were more especially designed for the juvenile friends of the society, and they constituted a large part of the audience. After singing and prayer, Mr Freeman opened the business with a few observations, in the course of which, he stated that six individuals would accompany the vessels as missionaries: Mr Brown, to take charge of Dr Philip's church at Cape Town; Mr Durant Philip, the son of Dr Philip, after spending a short time at the Cape, would proceed to India; and Messrs Heath, Gill, Powell, and Sunderland, for the South Seas. Mr Brown then delivered a farewell address to the young, and was followed by the other missionaries who each took leave of their friends; and Mr Sherman concluded with an impressive valedictory address. On Wednesday morning, agreeably to previous announcement, a large number of the friends and supporters of the London Missionary Society Assembled at the London bridge wharf, to take leave of the missionaries. At an early hour a number of highly respectable persons had assembled, crowding every avenue leading to the packet. At half-past nine o'clock the Star steamer, which had been engaged to convey the missionaries, with their wives, &c., to the ship, started, having on board between four and five hundred individuals, among whom were several of the directors, the secretaries of the society, and various London ministers. The steamer came up with the John Williams off Greenwich, and having been fastened to the vessels preparations were immediately made for the missionaries to leave. Previous, however, to doing so, an opportunity was given to all on board to take a final leave of them. They sat at the hinder part of the steamer, when the whole of the company passed by, bidding them an affectionate adieu. At the conclusion of this, a short service was held in the centre of the packet. The two vessels proceeded in company to Gravesend, where the ship cast anchor, and the steamer returned to London.

NAUNTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On May 27, an interesting meeting was held in the above village, in order to present to Mr Acock, lately the pastor of the baptist church there, a testimonial of their respect and esteem for his character and labours amongst them. Mr A. had lately resigned a pastorate of 22 years duration, having accepted a cordial invitation from the baptist church at Shepton-on-Stour, to become their pastor. The meeting was held in a large barn fitted up for the occasion, the chapel being too small to accommodate so large an assembly. About 450 persons took tea, after which John Wood, Esq., of Totteridge, was called to the chair. Mr Comely, one of the deacons, rose, and presented Mr Acock with a copy of Horne's Introduction, in 5 vols., handsomely bound, together with a purse of sovereigns, which he said was the gift of the whole church and congregation. After this, addresses, principally to the young, were delivered by the following ministers:—Mr Ricketts, of Cuttadan; Mr Dunn, of Winchcomb; and Mr Rodway, of Gloucester. The building was crowded in every part, many remaining outside. The assembly listened with marked attention, and many were affected even to tears.

SHREWSBURY.—Mr William Thorp, of Spring Hill college, Birmingham, has accepted a unanimous request from the church under the pastoral charge of Mr Thomas Weaver, of Shrewsbury, to enter upon ministerial duties in fellowship with their present venerable pastor.

ELLESMERE.—Mr C. B. Holder, of Spring Hill college, Birmingham, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the congregational church at Ellesmere, Shropshire, and purposes entering on his stated labours on the 30th inst.

BACON COLLEGE.—Messrs William Edwards and Edward Roberts, the two senior students in this institution, have received and accepted unanimous and cordial invitations, the former from the independent church at Ebenezer, Aberdare, and the latter from Zion chapel, Cwm Avon, both in the county of Glamorgan.

BIRTH.

June 2, at Camberwell, Mrs JOHN DOULTON of a son.

MARRIAGES.

June 2, at the Old Baptist Meeting house, Northamptonshire, Mr J. WADSWORTH, of Hamerton, Hunts, to CAROLINE, daughter of the late Mr J. Barber, of Covington, Hunts.

June 4, at Trevor chapel, Brompton, by Dr John Morrison, THOMAS WILLIAMS POCOCK, Esq., of Brompton row, to ELIZABETH ROSE, eldest daughter of Seth SMITH, Esq., of Eaton square.

June 4, at the Baptist chapel, Pershore, Mr WILLIAM AYER, independent minister of Nuneston, Warwickshire, to ELEANOR, youngest daughter of the late Mr William BOMFORD, of Wye Piddle.

June 5, at the Croft chapel, Hastings, Mr HENRY WINN, printer, to Miss HARRIET ATLYFFE URY, British school mistress, both of Hastings.

June 5, at the Baptist chapel, St George's road, Manchester, Mr ROBERT BROMFIELD, to ANNA, third daughter of Mr W. DALY, yeoman, Cheetham hill.

June 6, at the Hermitage chapel, Crewkerne, CHARLES GIFFORD BAKER, Esq., solicitor, of Risca, Monmouthshire, to ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late James CUFF, Esq., of Merriott house, near Crewkerne.

June 6, at the independent chapel, Thirsk, Mr BUTCHER, independent minister of Easingwold, to JANE, youngest daughter of Mr Wm PEACOCK, joiner and cabinet maker of the former place.

June 6, at the Baptist chapel, Broad street, Nottingham, GEORGE EATON STANGER, Esq., surgeon, eldest son of William Stanger, Esq., Fleet, to MARY, daughter of Nathan HURST, Esq., Nottingham park.

DEATHS.

June 1, at Castle Donington, aged 90, MARY ANN, wife of Mr W. EDWARDS, independent minister.

June 2, in the 80th year of his age, THOMAS WITTON, a member of the society of Friends, and an old and respected inhabitant of Bath.

June 3, at Kendal, Mr JOHN B. HAZWORTH, proprietor of the Kendal Mercury, aged 84. His end was peace.

June 3, at Durham, at the house of her aunt, Miss Angus, aged 21, ELIZABETH, daughter of Thomas DICKINSON, Esq., Spencey Croft, Alston.

June 3, SALOME COOIL, wife of Mr Richard Cecil, of Chipping Ongar, Essex, aged 48.

June 4, at the residence of his brother, E. Bowdage, Esq., surgeon, Crewkerne, Mr S. BOWDAGE, aged 43, deeply regretted by a large circle of friends, being an eminently pious man.

June 5, at Maidenhead, Berks, aged 80 years, Mr STEPHEN WESTBROOK, the venerable senior deacon of the independent church in that place. He was the last of the generation who was present at the settlement of the late Mr John Cooke, more than sixty years ago. He was the bosom friend of that venerated minister of Christ in his youth, his beloved and constant friend through life, and one of those who stood by his couch at his death. Mr Westbrook held the office of deacon for nearly half a century, and was much esteemed and revered by all the ministers of the gospel in the county, and by society in general in his own vicinity. He was gathered to his fathers in peace, enjoying, to the last moments of consciousness, that calmness of mind and simple dependence on the grace which is in Christ Jesus, which had so long been the peculiar feature of his character, and had rendered him an object of veneration to his family, and to the church which now mourns the loss of his judicious counsels, unremitting services, and constant prayers.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, June 7.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

Union chapel, Berkeley, Gloucestershire.
St Mary's Catholic chapel, Liverpool.
Congregational chapel, Carlisle.

BANKRUPTS.

BARNES, WILLIAM, 20, Ludgate hill, City, bonnet maker, June 14, July 19: solicitor, Mr C. B. Teague, Crown court, Chancery Lane.
BATTEN, JAMES, Tilehurst, Berkshire, cattle dealer, June 20, July 25: solicitors, Messrs Hill and Co., Throgmorton street, and Messrs Weedon and Co.

FIELDING, GEORGE, Thame, Oxfordshire, ironmonger, June 21, July 12: solicitor, Mr J. B. Tippetts, 6, Pancras lane, City.

JENKINSON, GEORGE, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, butcher, June 15, July 18: solicitors, Mr Clark, Wolverhampton, and Mr J. Smith, Birmingham.

KNOTT, JAMES BARCUS WILLIAM, St James's walk, Clerkenwell, printer, June 18, July 9: solicitor, Mr Green, 8, Basinghall street.

L VET, JOSEPH, Soham, Cambridgeshire, carpenter, June 20, July 25: solicitor, Mr Wilkin, Amwell terrace.

PARKER, JOHN, Kingston-upon-Hull, corn miller, June 17, July 10: solicitors, Messrs Tilson and Squance, Coleman street, London; Messrs P. and R. Wells, Hull; and Messrs Horsfall and Harrison, Leeds.

SMITH, JAMES LINTWATTE, Leicester, cabinet maker, June 18, July 23: solicitors, Messrs Brown and Palmer, Leicester.

BRUCE, SIMON HARTLEY, Leeds, mason, June 20, July 16: solicitors, Mr Milton, 28, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane, London, and Messrs Dunning and Stawman, Leeds.

TURNER, WILLIAM, Manchester, cabinet maker, June 10, July 10: solicitors, Messrs Chester and Co., Staple inn, London, and Messrs Chapman and Roberts, Manchester.

YOUNG, JAMES, Aldermanbury, City, laceman, June 20, July 25: solicitors, Mr Wilson, 3, Aldermanbury, and Messrs Soles, 68, Aldermanbury.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

PATERSON, JOHN, Anderson, Ayrshire, mason, June 10, July 1.

DIVIDENDS.

W. A. Whitfield, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, draper; second div. of 1d. and 11-20ths of a penny in the pound, June 8, and any following Saturday.—M. Scarth, Bishopwearmouth, miller; first and final div. of 1d. in the pound, any Saturday.—W. Armfield, Northampton, draper; first div. of 6s. in the pound, any Wednesday.—Gouger and Hunter, Great Winchester street, City, merchants; first div. of 1s. 8d. in the pound, and on the separate estate of Gouger second div. of 1s. 1d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—H. Bental, 18, Cecil street, Strand, coal merchant; second div. of 2d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—H. Wood, 185, Fleet street, City, bookseller; second div. of 4s. 5d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—Beerbohn and Slaughter, Fenchurch street, City, merchants; second div. of 2d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—T. H. Wood, Penton street, Pentonville, draper; first div. of 4s. 6d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—G. C. Bridge, Maldon, Essex, grocer; first div. of 4s. in the pound, June 12, and the two following Wednesdays.—A. Jamieson, 1-leworth, bookseller; second div. of 3d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. B. Wienholt, late of the Old Swan, City, merchant; seventh div. of 9-16ths of a penny in the pound, any Wednesday.—E. T. Crauford, late of Boulogne-sur-Mer, France, and of 191, Piccadilly, wine merchant; second div. of 1s. 2d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—W. Pringle, Morpeth, Northumberland, carrier; first div. of 1s. 4d. in the pound, any Saturday.—T. Smithson, York, tobaccoconist; final div. of 4d. in the pound, any Tuesday.—H. Hitchin, Halifax, Yorkshire, ironmonger; first div. of 10s. in the pound, June 10, and any day after.—H. Fullford, second div. of 3d. in the pound, any Thursday.—B. Smith, second div. of 4s. in the pound, any Thursday.—W. B. Price, first div. of 20s. in the pound, any Thursday.—W. Tomkinson, first portion of the first div. of 2s. 6d. in the pound, namely 2s. 9d., any Thursday.—R. Beasley, first div. of 1d. in the pound, any Thursday.—C. Williamson, Regent street, Westminster, hosier; first div. of 10s. in the pound, any Wednesday.—T. Smith, jun., Lime street, ship owner; first div. of 2s. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. Sparham, Troston, Suffolk, miller; final div. of 4s. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. Smith, 143, Hoxton Old Town, linen draper; a div. of 1s. 8d. on account of the first div. of 4s. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. C. Crespin, Eastcheap, shipping agent; second div. of 5d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. Bishopp, Westburton, Suffolk, market gardener; second div. of 6d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—D. Bareilly, High street, Southwark, and Surrey place, Old Kent road, cheesemonger; second div. of 1s. 4d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—S. Phillips, Brook street, Hanover square, carpet warehouseman; second div. of 10d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. Philpotts, Billericay, Essex, coach proprietor; div. of 2s. 9d. in the pound, any Wednesday.

Tuesday, June 11.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

Salem chapel, Cheltenham.

BANKRUPTS.

DEALTRY, JAMES, Burslem, Staffordshire, grocer, June 25, July 19: solicitors, Messrs Johnson and Co., Temple, London.

GROVE, GEORGE, of Wick and Abson, Gloucestershire, miller, June 21, July 23: solicitors, Messrs Daniels and Barker, Bristol.

HEWARD, JAMES, Lawrence street, Hendon, hay salesman, June 18, July 26: solicitor, Mr Joseph Raw, 5, Fumival's inn.

LAKE, HENRY, Cheltenham, printer, June 18, July 23: solicitor, Mr James Boodle, Cheltenham.

ROGERS, FREDERICK, Cogenhoe mill, Cooknos, Northamptonshire, miller, June 18, July 24: solicitor, Mr Catlin, Ely place, Holborn.

ROSS, DANIEL, 1, Little Love lane, City, warehouseman, June 18, July 19: solicitors, Messrs Dixon and Overbury, Frederick's place, Old Jewry.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

LOW, JAMES, Dundee, merchant, June 17, July 15.

DIVIDENDS.

M. Marks and S. Barnett, Liverpool, tailors; second div. of 4d. in the pound, any Thursday.—J. Brown, jun., Tyde, Monmouthshire, ironfounder; first div. of 1s. 3d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—A. W. Hillier, Evesham, ironfounder; first div. of 6s. 10d. in the pound, any Saturday.—W.

Feurip, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, joiner; first div. of 8s. 6d. in the pound, any Saturday.—J. D. Loder, Bath, music seller; first div. of 1s. 9d. in the pound, and second div. of 6d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. and T. Metcalfe, Cambridge, upholsterers; first and second div. of 14s. 3d. in the pound, and third div. of 9d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. Stuart, Liverpool, draper; final div. of 5d. in the pound, any Thursday.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The English funds were very firm until Monday, when the news from America caused them to recede a little; but no material alteration has taken place.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99 1/2	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto for Account	99 1/2	—	—	—	—	—
3 per cents Reduced	99 1/2	99	99	99	99	99
3 1/2 per cents Reduced	102 1/2	102	102	102	102	102
New 3 1/2 per cent.	103 1/2	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annuities	124	124	124	124	124	124
Bank Stock	200	—	200	199	199	199
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	72pm	71pm	72pm	70pm	72pm	72pm
India Bonds	—	—	92pm	—	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	114	Mexican	35 1/2
Belgian	104	Peruvian	29
Brazilian	81 1/2	Portuguese 5 per cents	44
Buenos Ayres	38	Ditto 3 per cents	—
Columbian	132	Russian	117 1/2
Danish	88	Spanish Active	31
Dutch 2 per cents	61 1/2	Ditto Passive	6
Ditto 3 per cents	100 1/2	Ditto Deferred	14

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	59	London and Brighton	47
Birmingham & Gloucester	92	London & Croydon Trunk	124
Blackwall	84	London and Greenwich	7
Bristol and Exeter	80	Ditto New	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Manchester & Birm.	56
Eastern Counties	114	Manchester and Leeds	106
Edinburgh and Glasgow	66 1/2	Midland Counties	88
Great North of England	99	Ditto Quarter Shares	26
Great Western	120	North Midland	88
Ditto Half	76	Ditto New	45
Ditto Fifth	214	South Eastern and Dover	35
London and Birmingham	280	South Western	87
Ditto Quarter Shares	25	Ditto New	—

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, JUNE 10.

The supply of English wheat was moderate, but there was not any improvement in the demand, and only a partial clearance was made at about the prices of this day's market. Free foreign is taken to supply immediate wants, at our previous currency.

There were not any fresh arrivals of foreign barley last week, and there being now no pressure on the market, the terms of this day's market were fully realised for this article.

Having a large supply of beans at market, they sell slowly at hardly so good terms. Peas are, however, quite as dear.

About 14 vessels of oats arrived fresh this morning from Ireland, but scarcely any from other places. The weather still continuing dry, a fair sale was obtained at the prices of Monday last, but the demand has been more particularly directed to the light and secondary qualities.

Wheat, Red New	44 to 55	Malt, Ordinary	48 to 55
Fine	55 to 57	Pale	54 to 55
White	44 to 55	Rye	34 to 37
Fine	54 to 55	Peas, Hog	30 to 33
Flour, per sack	39 to 50	Maple	30 to 33
Barley	25 to 35	Boilers	32 to 34
Malt	30 to 33	Beans, Ticks	29 to 33

Beans, Pigeon	32 to 34	Wheat	17s. 0d.
Harrow	27 to 28	Barley	7 0
Oats, Feed	18 to 21	Oats	6 0
Fine	22 to 23	Rye	10 6
Poland	20 to 23	Beans	10 6
Potato	30 to 33	Peas	10 6

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR JUNE 7.		AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.	
Wheat	55s. 6d.	Wheat	55s. 6d.
Barley	30 9	Barley	31 4
Oats	21 7	Oats	20 9
Rye	24 0	Rye	31 0
Beans	24 10	Beans	28 11
Peas	23 4	Peas	31 0

SEEDS.

Red clover has of late been taken in small quantities for re-sowing at full terms, and there has been less doing in the article on speculation. There was a fair supply of canaryseed this morning, and Monday's advance was scarcely supported.

Lined seed	per qr	Clover	per cwt.
English, sowing	54s. to 60s.	English, red	— to —
Baltic, ditto	—	Ditto, white	—
Ditto, crushing	40 to 42	Flemish, pale	—
Medit. & Odessa	41 to 43	Ditto, fine	—
Hempseed, small	35 to 38	New Hamb., red	—
Large	—	Ditto, fine	—
Canary, new	58 to 60	Old Hamb., red	—
Extra	62 to 66	Ditto, fine	—
Caraway, old	—	French, red	—
New	57 to 60	Ditto, white	—
Hyggrass, English	—	Coriander	15 to 20
Scotch	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed	per last
Brown, new	12 to 17	English, new	25s. to 28s.
White	8 to 11	Lined cakes	—
Trefoil	23 to 30	English	9s. 10s. to 10s. 6s.
Old	12 to 15	Foreign	8s. to 9s. 10s.
Tares, new	4 to 5	Rapeseed cakes	4s. 15s. to 5s. 0s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, JUNE 10.

The arrivals of new Irish butter, being moderate, were mostly cleared off at last quotations. Nothing worth notice done on board. Old was nearly neglected; foreign in good demand—Friesland at 73s. to 75s., Kiel at 73s. to 75s. per cwt. But a slow and rather small demand for bacon of all kinds, and prices the turn cheaper, say 41s. to 43s. per cwt. Bale middles in very dull sale, at 35s. to 40s., and tierces at 36s. to 40s. per cwt. Hams being in large supply, and some quantity out of condition, have been pressed on the market at lower rates, ranging from 50s. to 64s. per cwt, according to size, quality, and condition. Lard not more saleable at 54s. to 58s. bladders; 45s. to 48s. kegs.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, June 10.

The market has not been quite so active, but the holders continue firm. The plantations are said to suffer still from fly; while the lice, according to some accounts, are on the increase. We receive these statements, sometimes founded on too local an inspection, with the usual reservation. The short stocks on hand will materially, however, serve to render the market very susceptible in the event of injury to the bines. Prices remain as last week.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, June 10.

The beef trade to-day ruled excessively dull, and in order to effect sales an abatement of quite 2d. per 5lbs. on last week's prices was submitted to by the salesmen, and a clearance was not effected. The imports of live stock, under the new tariff, are on the increase, they having amounted, since this day's market, to 35 beasts from Spain, and 50 from Holland and Germany. The numbers of sheep were extensive; while the demand for them was unusually heavy, at a decline in value of quite 4d. per 5lbs., at which a clearance was not effected. From all quarters the receipts of lambs were numerous, which produced a very

heavy sale for that description of stock, at a decline in value of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs. Calves, the supply of which was good, met a dull inquiry at, in most instances, a decline of 2d. per 8lbs. In pigs a very limited business was doing, and the rates had a downward tendency.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	2s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.	Veal	3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton	2 6 .. 3 10	Pork	3 0 .. 4 0
Lamb	4 0 .. 5 0		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday 554	12,800	362	361
Monday 3,082	35,650	178	380

NEWCASTLE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, June 10.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

Inferior Beef 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.	Inf. Mutton 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d.
Middling do 2 8 .. 2 10	Mid. ditto 2 10 .. 3 4
Prime large 2 10 .. 3 0	Prime ditto 3 6 .. 3 10
Prime small 2 .. 3 4	Veal 3 4 .. 4 4
Large Pork 2 6 .. 3 6	Small Pork 3 6 .. 4 0
Lambs, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.	

COTTON.

There has been a considerable revival in the demand; and, notwithstanding the very heavy import, holders have shown less disposition to offer their stocks. The common and middling qualities of American and Surat may be considered 4d. per lb. dearer, whilst all other kinds are more saleable at the quotations of Friday last. Speculators have taken 4000 American and 400 Surat, and exporters 800 American. Inclusive of the foregoing, the sales have amounted to 37,570 bales.

WOOL.

The stocks of many descriptions are large in the manufacturing districts, and the manufacturers are generally indisposed to buy at present. In flannel wool there has been a fair amount of business doing at late prices. Blanket wool is not inquired for at present, and lower prices must be submitted to, to effect sales. Combing wool has been lowering in value very considerably, and no possibility of selling exists except at a great reduction.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, June 8.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow .. 68s. to 80s.	New Clover Hay .. 90s. to 115s.
New ditto	Old ditto
Useful Old ditto .. 84 .. 88	Oat Straw 27 .. 30
Fine Upland ditto 90 .. 94	Wheat Straw .. 30 .. 32

COAL EXCHANGE, June 10.

Stewart's, 23s. 6d.; Hetton's, 23s. 6d.; Braddyll's Hetton's, 24s. Ships arrived this week, 120.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, JUNE 11.

TEA.—There seems to be a better feeling in the market, and several parcels have changed hands. Common congou, cash, at 104d. to 11d. per lb.

COFFEE.—The sales comprise 90 bales of Mocha; 136 bags of Costa Rica, and 79 casks and barrels of Trinidad; the former were all withdrawn at 72s.; the Costa Rica were taken in at 56s., which was 10s. less value; and the Trinidad sold at full price—50s. to 52s. 6d.

SUGAR.—The West India market has opened with a good demand, though last week's prices have not been maintained. The business to-day has amounted to 430 hhds at earlier prices. 4,500 bags of Bengal were offered, of which 800 brought higher prices. 700 brown brought 50s. to 53s.

RICE.—1,500 bags of Bengal offered, and were taken in at previous prices—viz., 10s. 9d.

TALLOW.—There has been more business done, and the market is firmer. P.Y.C. is quoted 40s. 3d. to 40s. 9d. on the spot, and there are buyers at 41s. 6d. for the end of the year, and buyers at £35 free on board.

Advertisements.

ANY LADY of Piety, and Dissenting principles, wishing for a partnership in a respectable and flourishing Ladies' School near London, may hear further by addressing A. B., Messrs Relfe and Fletcher, 17, Cornhill.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, CITY ROAD.

ON SABBATH DAY NEXT, JUNE 16th, **TWO SERMONS** will be preached on behalf of this Charity, at the SCOTCH CHURCH, REGENT SQUARE: that in the Morning by the Rev. WILLIAM BROOK, of Norwich; that in the Evening by the Rev. J. HAMILTON, A.M., Minister of the Church. Service in the Morning will commence at Eleven, and in the Evening at Half-past Six o'clock precisely. The Children will attend upon the occasion.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION of the CENTRAL BOYS' SCHOOL will take place in the School Room, Borough road, on WEDNESDAY, June 19th, at Eleven o'clock precisely.

Sir GEORGE GREY, Bart. M.P. and V.P., will preside. Admission by Tickets only, which may be obtained at the Society's House, Borough road.

HENRY DUNN, Secretary.

INDIAN AND JEWISH MISSIONS OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

THE MISSIONARY MEETING of the FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND will be held, D. V., at EXETER HALL, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, June 12, 1844. PATRICK MAXWELL STEWART, Esq., M.P., will take the Chair at six o'clock precisely.

The Hon. and Rev. Baptist W. Noel, M.A., the Rev. Dr. Cook, of Belfast, the Rev. Dr. Wilson, of Bombay, the Rev. C. Schwartz, of Constantinople, the Rev. William Arthur, the Rev. James Sherman, the Rev. W. Brock, the Rev. James Hamilton, and others are expected to attend and Address the Meeting.

All the Missionaries lately belonging to the Established Church having given in their adherence to the Free Church, continue to occupy the following stations:—

Calcutta	Rev. Dr. Duff,
	Rev. W. S. M'Kay,
	Rev. David Ewart,
	Rev. John M'Donald,
	Rev. Thomas Smith,
Bombay	Rev. Dr. Wilson,
	Rev. Robert Nesbit,
	Rev. J. Murray Mitchell,
Rangoon	Rev. James Mitchell,
Madras	Rev. John Anderson,
	Rev. John Braidwood,
	Rev. Robert Johnston,
Malacca	Rev. John Mackail,
Gibraltar	Rev. J. Strachan,
Madeira	Rev. J. Julius Wood.

JEWISH MISSIONARIES.

Pesth	Rev. Dr. Duncan,
	Rev. Robert Smith,
	Rev. William Wingate,
Jassy	Rev. Daniel Edwards,
	Mr. Herrman Philip,
Damascus	Rev. William O. Allan,
Constantinople ..	Rev. C. Schwartz,
	Mr. Neuhaus.

The Free church have also about twenty Female Schools under the superintendence of Female Missionaries.

TICKETS may be had at 13, Exeter Hall; Mr. Cotes, 138, Chancery; Mr. Baileys, 124, Oxford street; and Messrs J. Nisbet and Co., 31, Berners street.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, Parish of Saint Mary, SOUTHAMPTON.

APPEAL.

It has long been matter of just reproach that Southampton, with a population more rapidly increasing than almost any other town in the kingdom, and now amounting to 32,000 souls, should have been provided with only one Congregational Chapel. It is also believed that no part of England exhibits an amount of destitution of the means of religious instruction greater than that existing in this town.

The district in which this destitution exists to the greatest extent is the Parish of Saint Mary, which contained, by the census of 1841, 14,535 inhabitants. It now numbers at least 17,000, being above one-half of the entire population of the town. The whole amount of Church and Chapel accommodation in this district is under 2000; nor is this lamentable deficiency supplied by adequate provision in other parts of the town.

Some friends of religion in Southampton, having long lamented the existence of this destitution, have at length resolved, in firm reliance on the Divine blessing, to make an effort to remove what may perhaps be deemed a neglect of obvious duty. To meet, in some degree, this pressing demand, it is proposed to erect, in the centre of this neglected parish, a commodious Edifice, capable of seating at least 1000 persons, with suitable Rooms attached for Educational purposes.

A favourable opportunity for securing a most eligible site having occurred by the intended removal of the South Hants Infirmary to more extensive and newly-erected premises, the Freehold Buildings and Land now used for that purpose have been purchased for £900, and possession will be given on Midsummer day.

Divine service will be commenced in the present building, which it is proposed to convert into a temporary Chapel and School Rooms, immediately after possession is obtained. On the land in the rear, it is proposed to erect the new Chapel and School Rooms. To carry out these objects not less than £2500 will be required in addition to the first purchase of £900; and with a view to the prevention of future difficulties, so injurious and discreditable to many congregations, the Committee have decided that the new buildings shall not be commenced until one-half of the necessary amount has been subscribed. They most earnestly appeal to the religious public to aid them in this effort of Christian benevolence, and, by an early and liberal support of the case now submitted, to enable them at once to engage in the erection of the new Chapel.

Subscriptions will be received by the Treasurer, Mr W. Lankester; and the Secretaries, Mr Jos. Knight and Mr A. Forbes; by the Hampshire Banking Company, Southampton; and at the Offices of the *Patriot* and *Nonconformist*, London.

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE REV. T. ADKINS.

"Approving as I do, and have done, of the attempt to erect an additional Congregational chapel in the destitute part of the population of the town of Southampton contemplated by this case, I beg to commend it to the support of the Christian public."

Southampton, June 1, 1844.

THOMAS ADKINS."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Rev. T. Adkins	£50 0 0	Mr Laishley, sen.	10 0 0
Joshua Wilson, Esq., ..	50 0 0	Mr Gray	10 0 0
Highbury	50 0 0	Mr Minus	10 0 0
Mr Fowler	50 0 0	Mrs Forbes	10 0 0
Mr Randall	50 0 0	Mr Field	7 10 0
Mr Sharp	50 0 0	Mr Robertson	6 0 0
Mrs Lankester, sen., ..	200 0 0	Mr Vinen	5 0 0
and Family	25 0 0	Mr Williams, jun.	5 0 0
Mr Knight	25 0 0	Mr James Durkin ..	5 0 0
Mr Forbes	25 0 0	Mr C. Ivimey	5 0 0
Mr Farmer	25 0 0	Mr Dummer, Not-	
Mr Gray	25 0 0	tingham	5 0 0
Mr H. Pinhorn	25 0 0	Mr G. Brown	5 0 0
Mr Stace	20 0 0	Mr Callen	5 0 0
Mr Oakley	20 0 0	Mrs Pardey	5 0 0
A Friend, by ditto ..	20 0 0	Miss Lydia Sharp ..	5 0 0
Mr Fletcher	15 0 0	Mr G. Laishley ..	5 0 0
Mr Barling	15 0 0	Mr H. Rice, Newport	5 0 0
Mr Hoole, Sheffield ..	10 0 0	Mr Bullar, specially	
Mr Betts, Leicester ..	10 0 0	for sitting up the	
Mr B. D. Ellyett, jun. ..	10 0 0	present building ..	5 0 0
Mr Aldridge	10 0 0	Received from Col-	
Mr R. Andrews	10 0 0	lecting Boxes	21 18 8
Mr Graham	10 0 0	Mr Cannings, Finch-	
Mr Downman and		dean	5 0 0
Friends	10 0 0	Sums under £5	51 3 0

THE CASE OF THE INTENDED NEW INDEPENDENT CHAPEL AT SIDMOUTH, DEVON.

IN the Year 1810, a Chapel was erected in this elegant Watering-place, chiefly through the exertions of the late Mrs James, then Miss Baker, who was patronised and assisted by the late Rev. Mr Wilks. The only site which could be obtained was a small piece of leasehold property, in a back street, and in an otherwise inconvenient situation. The tenure by which the Chapel is now held is reduced to one life, whose continuance, through age and bad health, is extremely precarious; so that the place might lapse any day, and must lapse soon, to the Lord of the Manor. A Committee has been formed to look out for land on a more eligible situation; and, through the munificence of Thomas Jacob, Esq., who has given Three Hundred Pounds, freehold property, in a desirable situation, has been purchased and conveyed to respectable trustees. A liberal subscription has been commenced in Sidmouth; but, as many of the people are poor, the expenses of the erection will far exceed their ability, and an appeal is now made to the public. One of us who sign this paper has promised a Hundred Pounds towards the erection, provided the necessary sum can be raised, and subscribes £20 a year towards the support of the ministry. Besides the names appended to this statement, the case is attested and recommended by the following ministers:—The Rev. Dr Payne, and the Rev. Messrs Bristow, Hollings, and Patterick, of Exeter; Wright, of Honiton; Bishop, of Beaminster; Bownall, of Ottery; and Clapson, of Exmouth.

It is hoped that the urgency of case will be its recommendation to the liberal and the wealthy; and that many who avail themselves of the beautiful scenery and salubrious air of this elegant retreat will cheerfully contribute towards the erecting of this intended House of God; and that all who are zealous for the Denomination to which it is to belong will lend their generous aid.

Subscriptions will be received by either of the gentlemen whose names are hereto subscribed, or by Mr Hall, of No. 2, Wellington street, Strand, London, who is authorised to receive them, and who will also call upon the friends of our Denomination in London.

J. A. JAMES, Birmingham.

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